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Jones Resigns Post; 'Taking a Break'

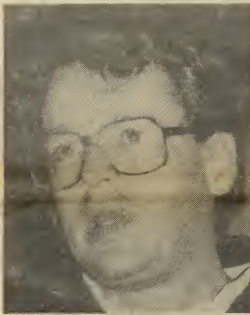
Activist Candidly Assesses the Status of the Gay Movement

by Allen White

He was there on May 21, 1979, when San Francisco erupted with rage at the Dan White verdict. He scoured the Castro, shouting "Out of the bars! Into the streets!" and thousands followed him—a leader who looked like a cherub but sounded like the angry man he was.

He was there for five years after that, travelling the state as an aide to Assembly member Art Agnos. He lobbied for five years for passage of AB-1, the Gay job-rights bill. In 1984, the bill passed—but the Governor vetoed it.

Now, Cleve Jones is going away. He needs a rest. "I'm tired, sad and I need a break," he said last week. On March 1, he heads for Hawaii to "goof off." "I'm going to get a tan and regain my sense of humor."

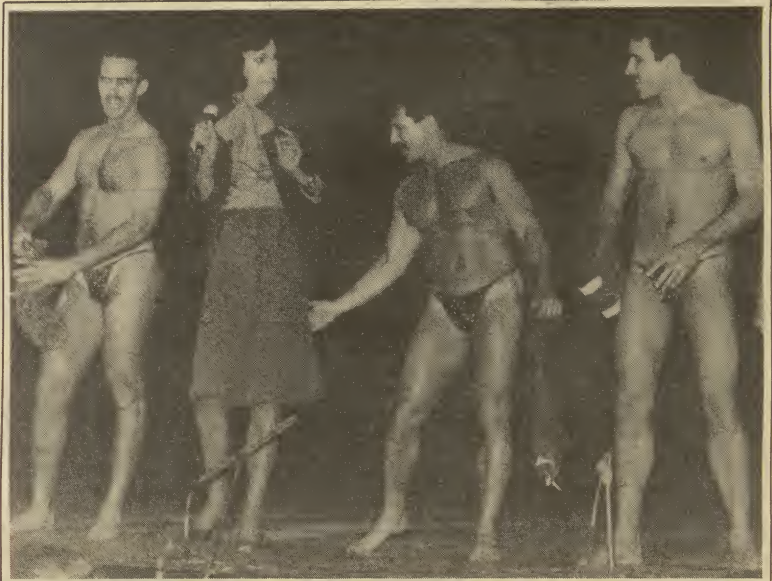


Cleve Jones (Photo: Rink)

Jones' forthcoming break from Gay politics provided him with a rare opportunity to candidly assess the movement—and those who think they are running it. Political leaders are out of touch, he says. And if anybody in San Francisco has a right to make that comment, it is Cleve Jones.

Jones sees the strength of the Gay and Lesbian movement on Castro Street, not in the meetings of the political clubs. He attributes the declining membership of the Gay political clubs to their "inability to communicate" with the community.

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IN THIS ISSUE

(Above.) FRISCO HAS a bathhouse in it! That's the Mayor's lament as she is surrounded by hunks in the finale of "Men Behind Bars." Two pages of pictures on pages 14, 15.

RULES ARE OKAYED to regulate blood testing. A state law is headed for the Senate while, in San Francisco, the supes issue warnings. Page 5.

GAY LOVERS defend themselves in highly publicized Wall St. fraud case. Morgan Pinney is at the trial and reports on page 11.

On the Cruise for 'Sensible Sex'

Porn Daddy Richard Locke Maps the Route to Lower Risk

by Richard Locke

First of a Series

On April 30, 1983 I attended the world's largest gathering of Gay men under one roof. It was a benefit for the Gay Men's Health Crisis, performed by the Barnum and Bailey Ringling Brothers Circus at Madison Square Garden. I was in New York to work and live with Allan Noseworthy III, who was on the board of The AIDS Resource Center.

Allan and I became "lovers" of a sort. He followed me to Palm Springs in November, 1983 where he and I began a life together. In May, 1984, Allan was diagnosed as having Kaposi's Sarcoma. He died on June 21, 1984.

We had practiced "sensible sex," not only with ourselves, but with others. Allan and I got into sensible sex activity through a course from the American Red Cross in which we learned about basic hygiene in the care of persons with AIDS. Secondly, I read in a pamphlet put out by Michael Callan and Richard Berkowitz, "How To Have Sex In An Epidemic: One Approach."

This was the foundation, but with the imagination of Allan and myself, we expanded our methods into low risk, satisfying sexual encounters which we termed "sensible sex." Many of the sexual acts in the following discussion were developed by Allan and myself in our needs.

I feel I owe my life to sensible sex and the resolve that Allan and I had to practice what we then called "safe sex." Had Allan known earlier about disease prevention he could have been here to help write this essay. I dedicate this essay to my hero, Allan Noseworthy III.

The sex drive is second only to survival in importance in our lives. Sexual prowess, hunger for acceptance, the search for love, and sexually compulsive behavior all create a heat in us that can circumvent all the parameters of good common sense.

In the heat of passion we do things, fearful things, that place us at very high risk of contracting a sexually transmitted disease. Good common sense goes flying out the window in the passions and ecstasies of the moment.

With proper planning and conduct in our lives we can gratify our animal needs with minimal risk and maximum protection.

In the past two years I have traveled around the country trying to ascertain the cause and prevention of AIDS. I have read articles in the Gay and straight press as well as articles in medical journals. I have learned that there may or may not be a vaccination in the years to come. I also learned that AIDS and all other sexually transmitted diseases are preventable.

In any and all sex acts there is risk of disease. Many sexually transmitted diseases have cures; but, even with a cure, most of these diseases are epidemic world wide. With AIDS now in the spectrum, it's very scary.

The "Zen Buddhist" knows that in the measure of all things, it's not how far, how fast, nor how high one goes—in climbing

(Continued on page 4)

Sierra Club Axes Plan for Gay Group

Opponents Call It 'Divisive'—A New Look at 'Sierra Singles'

by Jeanne Carstensen

Gay and Lesbian Sierra Club members almost made Sierra Club history Feb. 11. They proposed that the Bay Area Chapter Board should form a new activities section—Gay/Lesbian Sierrans (G/LS). But G/LS lost on a 4-4 vote of the board. It would have joined the ranks of "Sierra Singles," "Solo Sierrans," and "Sierra Couples"—some of the current activity groups among the club membership. But the Gay group was considered "divisive" by dissenting members of the board.

The proposal, obviously controversial within the Club, drew about 20 Gay and Lesbian supporters, the president of the National Sierra Club, the National Chairperson of the Sierra Club's successful Inner City Outings program, and other Sierra Club leaders to the board meeting.

The Sierra Club is one of the nation's largest environmental organizations with a national membership of more than 350,000. The Bay Area Chapter alone has 32,000 members.

G/LS's proponents, all active

environmentalists in the Sierra Club and other areas of the environmental movement, stressed that, "We are not attempting to make the Sierra Club a voice for Gay and Lesbian political concerns. On the contrary, we are trying to make the environment an important concern in the homosexual community."

Tom Oliver, G/LS's spokesperson at the meeting, summarized the Gay group's goals: "To increase club membership, enlist new support and financial

(Continued on page 4)

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Cleve Jones Calls It Quits

(Continued from page 1)

"What's more important," he said, "going to a meeting or developing a community?"

That positioning of Cleve Jones was demonstrated last spring. Following an automobile accident, he failed to make it to an endorsement meeting of the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club. The club executives tore him apart in a letter released with their recommendations for endorsement for Democratic County Central Committee.

The club failed to endorse Jones, the person who just three months earlier had earned praise from his boss for his work in getting a Gay rights bill through the California Legislature.

The snipe at Jones backfired on the club. He was one of the highest vote-getters for Democratic County Central Committee in the 16th District. On the other hand, the Milk Club lost incumbents in the election. One of those Milk Club people served as Treasurer of the committee. Today, Cleve Jones is the Treasurer of the San Francisco County Democratic Central Committee.

He quickly moved his political allegiance to the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club. Last September he chaired the Toklas annual dinner, which had the highest attendance and the largest net profit of any dinner in the history of the club.

The bitterness didn't end between Jones and the Milk Club after the June elections. The club chose to schedule its monthly meeting at the same time as the annual Nov. 27 memorial march last year honoring Harvey Milk and George Moscone. The absence of the club's banner at the march for its namesake became more of an embarrassment for the club than for Jones, who had again brought hundreds out to follow him on a wet November night—with candles to remember the assassinated leaders.

Since the memorial last Nov. 27, there has been no successful effort at street activism in the Gay community. "People will still march, but I don't think they see it as useful now. The reason has to be clear. There has to be a defined reason such as the outrage at Dan White or our grief for people with AIDS."

Jones points to the "Mobilization Against AIDS" organization which he believes has failed to communicate with the people in the street. "Let's face it," Jones says, "any group that schedules their meetings the same night as 'Dynasty' is not in touch with the Gay community." The group, Jones believes, hasn't been able to convince people to react to anything specific. "The AIDS funding by the Federal government is a farce but it is ongoing. People aren't going to believe that a march will change anything."

"My advice to leaders is to follow. Our strength comes from the people who are bartenders, clerks, telephone operators. Political leaders need to pay more attention to what is going on in the lives of their constituents," Jones said. "People are not demonstrating but they are active. They are visiting their brothers at hospitals, they are shopping for their sick brothers, they are volunteering at Shanti and they are burying their dead. The Gay movement is stronger than ever—as we have responded to AIDS with love and courage."

"Our movement hasn't died. We still have people coming to San Francisco. We also have



On the Street with bullhorn in hand, Cleve Jones (l.) was a familiar sight as he assisted Harvey Milk, (r.) as seen here in a 1978 demonstration... (Photo: Rink)



... Or in a Three-Piece Suit, as he was last year, Jones pushes for Gay rights; in this case, AB-1. (Photo: Rink)

more heroes than ever. There are almost 1,000 people with AIDS. Many of them live in my neighborhood. I can point out homes where there is a person with AIDS. I don't know the person, but I know there are people caring. Hundreds of people in our community have taken on enormous responsibilities caring for each other. You know, heroes don't need meetings."

He has been on the cutting edge of the AIDS crisis. "I've lost a lot of friends. I'm not asking for sympathy because I'm not alone. I still haven't found a personal way of processing my grief or my fear. If one or two people died, you could move on. Now, every week I pick up the B.A.R. to find out who died this week."

He remembers back to 1982 when he helped set up a small one-room office. It would evolve into the AIDS Foundation. At the time there was only one or two people in a room with two chairs, no other furniture and a single telephone.

"We didn't even know what to call the disease. I would go down onto Castro and find a familiar face and ask them to answer the phone for a few hours. People would climb the stairs searching for help with a disease they knew nothing about. Nobody had any idea of the cause. What I did know was that my friends were on the street," he said.

"I'm sad, but I'm not pessimistic. Have you ever wondered what makes us so special? When we get together at the Men Behind Bars show or the Cable Car Awards there is an electricity, an excitement. I think the reason is that you look around and know that 20 years ago it would have been impossible and 15 years ago it would have been unlikely. As a movement we are still so new. We are all a group of homosexuals working to make our world." He paused and then said, "I'm so proud to be Gay."

A. White

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By **DR. RICK PETTIT**

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Interest in Lesbian Motherhood Grows — Many 'Choosing Children'

House Is Packed, Second Screening Is Added As Parenting Film Focuses on Child-Raising Issue

by Eric Peterson

The vital concern with parenting rights in the Lesbian community was revealed by the full house Wednesday, Feb. 13, for the York Theatre's screening of "Choosing Children." It is a documentary film on Lesbian parenting by Debra Chasnoff and Kim Klausner.

Roberta Achtenberg, an attorney with the Lesbian Rights Project, called the screening "as large a gathering as we have had in our community for as long as I can remember."

The first screening's 950 seats sold out the weekend before the screening, said Sue Libow, Lesbian Rights Project development director. She added that a hastily scheduled 9 o'clock showing Wednesday drew another 400 people, even though the later showing had not been publicized.

At the screening, Achtenberg said the Lesbian Rights Project gets at least one call a day from a woman somewhere in the country who is in danger of losing custody of her children because she is a Lesbian.

Achtenberg said in an interview that although Lesbian mother custody and Gay male father custody are decided state by state, the general trend across the country is better for Gay men and Lesbians involved in custody cases. "Things are pretty good in California, but better in Alameda and San Francisco and Los Angeles counties" than elsewhere, Achtenberg noted. She added that judges have tremendous discretion in trying to discern who is the most significant parent to the child psychologically. "Prejudice can swing the balance," she said.

In other states, the custody question is less encouraging. Achtenberg spoke of three Oklahoma cases in which Lesbian mothers are losing their children, and of a Virginia State Supreme Court decision which "presumed the unfitness of the Gay parent." The case will not go before the U.S. Supreme Court. "This is not the trend, but it is a terrible instance of homophobia," Achtenberg said.

Lesbians choosing to have or adopt children of their own, face some of the same obstacles as Lesbians fighting to retain custody of children from former marriages. Some Lesbians who have given birth through artificial insemination or through sex with a man have had custody battles with the "donor." Donna Hitchens, founding attorney of the Lesbian Rights Project, suggested a contract between mother and donor to avoid disagreements. "What this means is that partners are really clear with each other," Hitchens said.

Hitchens explained in the film that no state except Florida has laws against Lesbians adopting children, but that adoptions are always treated as single-parent

adoptions, leaving the co-mother with almost no legal rights. Hitchens advised a co-parenting agreement and a will as "the only evidence of the parenting role the other mother might play."

Filmmakers Chasnoff and Klausner chose people to appear in their documentary for racial and ethnic diversity, and diversity in the arrangements chosen for conceiving and bringing up children. Two women had sex with males; two had children through artificial insemination. One of them explains her home technique using jars from baby food or marinated artichokes, covered with socks to keep the sperm warm and safe from light.

A Seattle woman shares parenting with a Gay man, and a San Francisco family of five women are all parenting the daughter of one of them. The lack of a social framework for alternative parenting arrangements is always apparent in the film.

"There's no word in the English language to describe my relationship with Annie," says one of the women in the San Francisco family.



At the Opening for parenting film are Terry Tenant, Debra Chasnoff, Karla Clement, Kim Klausner and Deena Clevon. (Photo: Rink)

After the film, emcee Margaret Sloan-Hunter honored Cathy Cade, Donna Hitchens, Jeanne Jullion, Phyllis Lyon, Del Martin, Pat Norman, Cheri Pies, Frances Reid, Patti Roberts, Sue Saperstein, and Liz Stevens for their efforts for Lesbian mothers.

Several of the honorees, among them Lyon and Norman, had their own custody battles to keep their children. Chasnoff stressed the importance of honoring women of courage.

"This recognition ceremony couldn't have happened in many other places," she said.

Chasnoff said the film will be shown to small groups as well as to professional and academic people. She noted that although the filmmakers got some grant money for "Choosing Children," the largest part of funding by far came from within the women's community. ■

E. Peterson

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Sierra Axes Gays

(Continued from page 1)

resources for the chapter's conservation campaigns, promote wilderness ethics and environmental education and to meet a need for current Gay and Lesbian chapter members who do not attend activities sponsored by other activities sections."

National Sierra Club president Michelle Perrault said that creation of a Gay and Lesbian activities section within the Bay Area Chapter would be "counterproductive to national fundraising," and would threaten club membership nationally because, "homosexuality is not yet accepted in society; it's divisive."

In a communique to other Executive Committee board members, Jim Pacht was also concerned about divisiveness. He warned, "A Gay/Lesbian section will be the first step toward the institutionalized factionalization of the chapter and club along lines that are discriminatory, separatist, or have no relevance to the purposes of the club."

Perrault was also surprised that Gays and Lesbians don't feel welcome in the club. "We have Gays on the highest level," she said.

Although there are no structural limitations to Gay and Lesbian participation in the club, Oliver said that, "Evidence of why we feel uninvited is readily available from sources such as the Sierra Single's newsletter which espouses the 'Noah Principle,' or pairing of males with females."

Board member Don Forman was adamant that there is social value to the club in Gays and Lesbians meeting and encouraging environmental values. "Our activity sections integrate environmental consciousness into our social lives," he said. Other board members disagreed, however. Rather than form a new section for Gays and Lesbians, they advocated a reevaluation of all activities sections. Becky Evans, board member and founder of the popular Sierra

Singles, said, "We're becoming very fragmented. The club should work as a team."

"We are not fragmenting the club; we are attempting to make the Sierra Club family complete, inclusive and supportive of all its members," G/LS replied.

Because the National Sierra Club headquarters is located in San Francisco, there was general agreement that the Bay Area Chapter's decision would have significant impact.

In lieu of approving G/LS, the board moved to form a committee to "research how best to encourage Gay/Lesbian participation in the club."

Wick Kenny, a G/LS proponent said, "Although the Sierra Club did not officially authorize G/LS tonight, we already exist and will continue to be active."

"All four of the dissenting board members are up for reelection this year," he added.

Those wishing more information may contact: Gay and Lesbian Sierrans, 526 Liberty St., San Francisco.

J. Carstensen

Gay Vets Organizing

The Alexander Hamilton Veterans Association, formed a year ago to save the Herbst Theatre in the Veterans Building, is seeking new men and women members. The group is leading the fight to regain veterans' control of that building, dedicated to their use decades ago.

The Alexander Hamilton group meets at 7 p.m. every second Thursday of the month in Room 213, Veterans Building.

This Friday, Feb. 22, celebrate George Washington's Birthday in the Green Room of the Veterans Bldg. (7 p.m., \$5) along with the country rock band Conan and cabaret singer Jae Ross. For additional information about the Alexander Hamilton Veterans Assoc., call 431-1413.



Now Pay Attention Class. Porn Daddy Richard Locke balls out the students in "sensible sex" instruction. (Photo: Rink)

Cruising for 'Sensible Sex'

(Continued from page 1)

a mountain, for instance—but "how well" one accomplishes the task. Many of us, especially those of us in our thirties and older, have a certain nostalgia for the days gone by: days of the past when sexual liberty never involved more than an occasional dose of the clap. The nights of darkness in orgy rooms where anything and everything did happen. The crazy nights of sex, drugs and rock and roll.

The old ways are past. It is time to bury the dead and get on with the living and the loving. The future of us all, and for sexual liberty, can be health, peace and love.

Liberty literally means "freedom from restrictions." Zen and sexual liberty go hand in hand. "How well" we perform the sex act will set us free of disease. "How well" will give us the liberty we have always sought. We children of Gay and sexual liberation are going to grow up,

be responsible, and face reality, whether we like it or not.

I have an example of how simple the "HOW" of sex can lead to disease. 30 million Americans have herpes. If these people had turned on the lights and made a perusal of their sex partner's body, if they had used a prophylactic, if they had washed with a microbicide before and after sex, their exposure to the herpes virus could have been eliminated.

A simple thing like a light switch, a rubber, or bathing could have saved years of misery for themselves and freedom from contagion for numerous others. The path of disease transmission can be avoided.

I don't like the term "Safe Sex." The scientists say that the only safe sex is masturbation; anything beyond is merely perhaps safe, or just downright unsafe. I feel we can use the term "sensible sex," which means good common sense.

Sensible sex takes those high-risk activities out of the high risk category and brings them into the low risk category. It must be remembered that low risk is still a risk.

There has been much grief and sorrow caused by the spectre of AIDS. In order to understand what sensible sex is, we must discuss AIDS and the transmission of disease.

"In general, disease transmission requires a vehicle carrying a significant number of germs into a susceptible person." (Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights, pamphlet on AIDS).

Specific to AIDS, we don't know the vehicle, mucosa in this instance, that is carrying the germ. Saliva, urine, blood, semen, ear wax, feces, tears, sweat, any or all could be the vehicle. It is also most certain that semen is a vehicle.

Saliva, because it has microscopic amounts of blood, may be a vehicle but as yet has not been proved. The other mucosa is merely speculation. A significant number of germs could mean microscopic amounts as well as a bucketful.

Since this discussion is about sensible sex we will not discuss, except where necessary, any other areas. Celibacy is one way to interrupt the transmission of disease. Or, since for many this is not a viable alternative, not having mucosa exchanges is another option. For example,

mutual masturbation and body rubbing is "safe," according to the scientists, but anything beyond this is "perhaps safe."

Is this to say perhaps not safe as well? I think so. There are risks, even for straight people, for anything beyond masturbation, even though precautions have been taken.

The responsibility for disease transmission is with the individual. It is the individual's responsibility to protect themselves. The only person responsible for a dripping cock is the person with the dripping cock. Precautions could have been taken. The exception is the people who now have AIDS, who didn't know that AIDS was in the spectrum of sexually transmitted diseases when they contracted AIDS.

Sensible sex is more than simply non-mucosa sex. It also encompasses more than a way to get one's rocks off without mucosa contact. The only limit to sensible sex is the imagination.

Fantasy, imagination, patience, timing, planning and any number of other things can blend to make a satisfying, caring, sexual encounter without the sterility that is connoted by "safe sex."

Many of the sex acts in the following discussion were developed from experience and imagination. My partners taught me a lot, and with the passage of time they have been improved upon.

For instance, I first tried ball fucking about 12 years ago. It was an excruciating and difficult experience. Those moving and slippery globes were unmanageable and almost impossible to get into a tight hole. Eight years later, I found a ball stretcher that enabled me to have more control over those slippery globes, and as well, I'm not quite so anal retentive these days.

Ball fucking has become one of my more favorite activities. There is no mucosa contact with ball fucking. There are many more methods of interrupting the transmission of disease and to still have a satisfying sex life. Use imagination and be inventive. Use your disposable income and be creative. Explore the ethereal side of DISEASE INTERRUPTUS.

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City, State Approve Rules for Blood Test

City Would Warn of Testing Risk; State Would Protect Privacy

by Wayne Friday

Local and state efforts to regulate the HTLV-3 blood tests moved quickly this week. The State Assembly passed and sent to the Senate two bills to regulate the testing. In San Francisco, the Board of Supervisors held a special hearing, then passed a resolution calling for warnings to those interested in taking the test.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration delayed its scheduled Feb. 15 release date of the test at least until March. The test can detect antibodies to the HTLV-3 virus, which causes AIDS. The test can indicate past exposure to AIDS, but nothing more.

"Don't take the test" was the recurring warning to the Gay community and other "high risk" groups sounded by the city's health establishment and Gay activists at a hearing before the Board of Supervisors Health Committee on Tuesday.

The hearing, called at the request of Board President John Molinari, was held to discuss the blood test and its impact on the city. The test, to detect antibodies to HTLV-3 virus, has become an issue of concern to both Gays and medical experts because of its reputed high degree of inaccuracy, and because of questions regarding the confidentiality of the test results.

Dr. Mervyn Silverman, the former director of the city's Health Department and a nationally recognized expert on AIDS, was the first to testify and set the tone for the hearings.

Silverman stated that, although the test has value in the

screening of blood for the city's blood supply, he would not support the test because it is not diagnostic and its results are often misleading and erroneous.

Pat Norman, coordinator of the Lesbian/Gay Health Services Coordinating Committee of the Department of Public Health, submitted a draft resolution being offered to community groups for a consensus on policy regarding the proposed test. The resolution stated that the test poses the following five risks:

- The test cannot determine whether one has AIDS and cannot determine whether you might contract the disease in the future. The test may tell you only whether you have been exposed to the HTLV-3 virus sometime in the past. The test cannot determine whether you are still carrying the virus.

- After exposure to the HTLV-3 virus, it takes time



Art Agnos (Photo: Rink)

before the antibody can be detected in the blood.

- The test is not 100 percent accurate; the results of the test may be false simply because the test has not been perfected.

- Not all test results can be protected from access by third parties. If test results are used improperly by such third parties, it is conceivable that one could lose insurance, job, or other rights.

- Even though a positive test result cannot predict AIDS, a positive result may nonetheless cause enormous personal anxiety and psychological harm.

Others who testified at Tuesday's hearings included representatives of the Toklas Democratic Club, the Milk Democratic Club, Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, The AIDS Foundation, Community Partnership on AIDS, and the Mobilization Against AIDS. Health Committee members Harry Britt, Nancy Walker and Doris Ward passed a resolution urging the Mayor to ask the city Health Commission to

establish a city health policy on educating potential test-takers of the dangers of the test.

The resolution later that day was passed unanimously by the full Board of Supervisors. The full Board of Supervisors also approved a resolution supporting the bills by Assembly Members Art Agnos and Michael Roos that were recently passed by the Assembly and are slated by action by the state senate.

Agnos' bill, AB-403, is designed to protect the confidentiality of those tested for HTLV-3. Roos' bill, AB-488, would provide alternative sites for HTLV-3 testing. Currently, only blood banks are to be licensed to perform the tests—though the federal government is considering funding for alternative sites.



Greg Day (Photo: Rink)

Greg Day to Head Development Committee

Gay community activist Greg Day was elected chair of the Citizens Committee on Community Development at the January meeting. He is the first Gay chair in the committee's nine year history. The Citizens Committee advises the mayor on the annual allocation of over \$20,000,000 in Federal Community Block Grant funds to San Francisco agencies. Day was appointed to the Committee in 1983 by Mayor Dianne Feinstein.

Day is community relations director for the Larkin Street Youth Center for runaway and homeless youth. He serves on the Mayor's Council on Children, Youth and Families; the Board of Directors of Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth; and holds the office of Political Action Chair with Y.E.S.

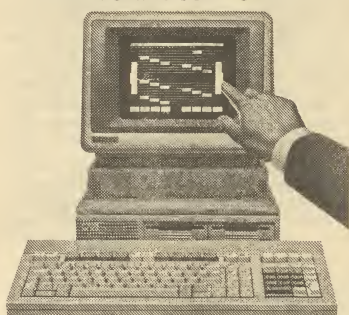
Community Thrift Gives Out \$21,000

The Community Thrift Store announced the distribution of over \$21,000 in profits from the second and third quarters of 1984 to 22 community nonprofit organizations. Recipients of all the store's proceeds are designated by donors of merchandise. Receiving the largest amount of funds are the Shanti Project (\$7,327) and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (\$4,521). Other recipients included National Gay Rights Advocates, Metropolitan Community Churches, the Women's Building, San Francisco Band Foundation, and Pacific Center in Berkeley.

Community Thrift Store is located at 625 Valencia St., Near 17th Street, and is sponsored by the San Francisco Tavern Guild Foundation.

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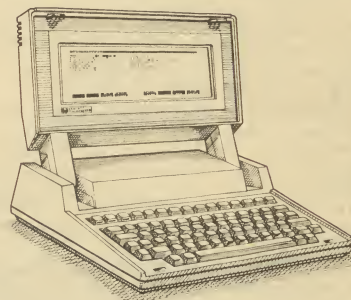
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VOL. XV NO. 8 FEBRUARY 21, 1985

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VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

What an Embarrassment

Is Con Murphy a liar or just a fool? The police chief blithely told KQED television, "We don't have police brutality in San Francisco—not where you've got a couple of cops beating up somebody in a dark alley."

Two of Murphy's cops stand trial in May. They are charged with beating up a guy in a dark alley. It happened in August and has been reported here because the victim is Gay.

We invite the Good Old Boys at the cop shop to eat their words. We'll supply spoon and fork—or slop trough, if they prefer. We refer here to the smear campaign five years ago against then-Chief Charles Gain. They called Gain "an embarrassment." Why? Somebody took a photo of him standing next to a hooker on Halloween.

Gain's real crime was holding tight on the leash the night the Good Old Boys wanted to bash fags' heads. That was White Night.

So now the Good Old Boys have had their Old Guard chief for four years. The result? A discredited police department. Our force is a farce in the eyes of the national law enforcement community. What an embarrassment.

The Mayor is in charge of this mess, so don't expect anything to get cleaned up. Competence has never been a criteria for serving the Mayor; loyalty always has. Plus, the Mayor owes Murphy one—for sending his cops to spy on Gay baths for the Mayor's secret mission last spring.

The Mayor's skirts are ample. But with the entire Old Guard crowding under them, it must be getting pretty crowded under there. Warm, too, we bet.

Brian Jones

Go Directly to Jail

California has a law that if a gun is used in the commission of a crime, the user automatically goes to jail. San Francisco seems to have a version of that law: Criticize the cops, go to jail. *Chronicle* columnist Warren Hinckle found that out. So did Robert Bryant, the Gay man who challenged a cop who called him a "faggot." Bryant spent the night in Mission Station for jaywalking.

Meanwhile, the Office of Citizen Complaints, which was set up to put some kind of a brake on unruly cops, is hamstrung with continued delays. After two years in existence, the OCC has yet to accomplish anything.

Voted into existence in 1982 with the support of 125,000 San Franciscans—and despite the objections of Mayor Feinstein and most of her police commission—the OCC has languished ever since. Once it began functioning, cases piled up and died. Then director Eugene Swann threw in the towel in September, 1984 amid criticism of mismanagement. He countered with charges that the OCC has been sabotaged by lack of support from City Hall.

The appointment of Frank Schober last November to replace Swann was the first good news for OCC supporters since November 1982. Schober has the managerial skills and the commitment to make the operation work. But it has yet to work. Opponents of police review have successfully stalled the OCC for over two years under Feinstein's policy of benign neglect.

The OCC will only work when Feinstein and her Police Commission want it to work. Perhaps, now that police scandals are piling up like complaints at the OCC, our city leaders will lead—and let it be known that cops are accountable.

Until then, be careful when crossing the street. And don't walk the dog without a leash.

Ray O'Loughlin

Top of the Ratings

★ I am sure many of your readers saw the film "Consenting Adult" on television last week. It must have pleased everyone that it portrayed homosexual people in a positive and accurate image.

It took great courage for the ABC television network to air this film: They took the risk of great public protest, public boycott, and commercial loss. Fortunately for Gays, they took the risk.

As it turns out it was a great commercial success for ABC and its affiliated TV stations. In ten Arbitron Ratings Company's eleven metered television markets this film was by far the most watched program last Monday. Only in Detroit did it fall behind the "Dirty Dozen" by a few percentage points. Even in seemingly anti-Gay Houston "Consenting Adult" beat the closest network competition by nearly seven rating points.

I would hope that anyone who was happy with the fact that this film was on television, would write to ABC at the address below with some positive comments:

ABC Entertainment
2040 Avenue of the Stars
Century City, CA 90067

I have a feeling that the anti-Gay forces are sharing their feelings with the network.

	ABC Consenting Adult	NBC Dirty Dozen	CBS Cagney & Lacey
New York	24.6	14.3	11.9
Los Angeles	25.2	13.4	8.1
Chicago	29.3	18.2	11.9
Philadelphia	27.8	19.0	13.0
San Francisco	20.3	12.9	10.5
Boston	21.3	15.0	11.0
Detroit	20.0	23.0	13.9
Dallas-Fort Worth	23.1	21.7	13.6
Washington D.C.	21.4	18.6	7.5
Houston	25.8	19.1	9.5
Miami	19.6	17.5	9.2

Robert McLoud
San Francisco

Macrobiotics Center Responds

★ I would like to comment on a letter in the Jan. 24 issue of the *Bay Area Reporter*, as the writer was addressing work done here at the American Center for Macrobiotics.

It is very clear that this individual assumed much from the flyer mentioned and seems, as well, to have done a poor job of fact finding. The Center has worked with AIDS, cancer and many other related illnesses for the one and a half years since its opening here in this community. The work is done through lectures, seminars, private counseling, cooking instruction, free support groups, exercise classes, etc. Our work is well known in the Gay community and we, in fact, have health practitioners of all kinds referring clients to us.

As regards our credibility—while information regarding AIDS is presently anecdotal in nature, it is significantly established in several major cities in the United States. New York in particular, that the employment of the macrobiotic diet has alleviated AIDS related symptoms and greatly improved blood quality in general. The use of macrobiotics to address AIDS has experienced so much success within New York's Gay community that a collaborative study involving that community and the Kushi Foundation in Boston has recently begun. The Kushi Foundation is a sister organization which, in conjunction with other macrobiotic centers, has been doing significant work with regard to dietary and lifestyle changes in relation to general health as well as the relief of serious illness. Many of the organizations are 12 to 14 years old.

I would like to extend a personal invitation to Tanya

Savory to visit the American Center for Macrobiotics. I would also be happy to provide references from throughout the macrobiotic community including both clients and practitioners, some of whom, from both groups, are M.D.s. Although disagreement with the approach may still exist, I am confident that Tanya will no longer regard our work as "capitalizing on a deadly epidemic . . ." and she will certainly know that we have nothing for which to be ashamed.

Gary Smith, Director
American Center for Macrobiotics
San Francisco

Pride Pride

★ It will be a giant step backward if our Gay brothers with alcohol and drug problems are forced to go to straight facilities. Simple muckraking dirt is easy. At least for a while I suggest you keep it positive.

The wonderful human interest stories of our brothers with a combination of AIDS, alcohol and drug problems, with their coping through the help of Pride Foundation services cry out for news coverage.

Together we stand, divided we fall!

Charles Baker
San Francisco

Glaring Error

The following was sent to KRON-TV's news director.

★ Since I agree with most experts that KRON's news department is the best in the Bay Area, I am willing to overlook the numerous small lapses, such as calling the Veteran's Building the Museum of Modern Art Building. But saying Judge Wonder's order on the Gay baths "had ordered the baths reopened," when it had done nothing of the kind, struck me as a bit careless.

This was nothing compared to the actual falsification of news on your Jan. 29 evening news show. With respect to the Department of Public Health's hearings on hiring an outside security force to patrol the baths, Ms. Abrams twice referred to "detectives" which she said were demanded by Judge Wonder's order. This is not only mildly erroneous, it is absolutely false. I have enclosed a copy of the order and if you can find a reference to "detectives" or indeed to any outside agency being called in to investigate sex, I will eat both the order and your script. It is in order to issue a clarification in the same time slot with the same prominence as the erroneous item was broadcast.

I would personally appreciate both an explanation on how such a glaring error could occur on a reputable news broadcast and what steps are being taken to assure that such events will not be repeated in the future.

Jerry Jansen
San Francisco

Letter Policy

★ The *Bay Area Reporter* welcomes your letters, to the editor. Letters must be signed; anonymous letters will not be published. Please include your mailing address and telephone number so we may verify your letter — this information will not be published.

In order to print as many views as possible, we ask letter writers to be brief. To promote diversity in the Open Forum, we favor letters from writers who do not appear frequently, over repeated correspondence from a single author.

B.A.R.

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EXECUTIVE & EDITORIAL OFFICES: 1528 15th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

TELEPHONES (415) 861-5019/861-7230

PUBLISHER: Bob Ross
NEWS EDITOR: Brian Jones
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR: Dianne Gregory
ASSOCIATE EDITOR: Ray O'Loughlin
FINE ARTS EDITOR: George Heymont
POLITICAL EDITOR: Wayne Friday

OFFICE MANAGER: Michael Snyder
CAMERA: Michael Jay Goldberg
LAYOUT: Peter Keane
TYPESETTING: Chal Cochran, Austin Snow
PHOTOGRAPHERS: Rink, Robert Pruzan
AUDITOR/ACCOUNTANT: Robert J. Dem, C.P.A.

Les Balmain, Michael Benzy, Philip Campbell, Jerry De Gracia, Jerry R. De Young, Greg Douthwaite, Leslie Ewing, Dug Figley, Wayne Friday, George Haymont, Michael Hippler, Frank J. Howell, T.J. Hughes, Peter Keane, Michael Lasky, Arthur Lazere, Charles Lineberger, George Mendenhall, Gene Miller, Nez Pas, Paul Reed, Dion B. Sanders, Mary Shaw, Will Snyder, Bernard Spunberg, Paul Trefzger, Tom Vindeed, Dick Walters, Steve Warren, Allen White, Keith White, Bob Woolhouse

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LETTERS

Grossly Subjective Conclusions

★ I am a 30-year-old Gay Black male and I applaud Dion B. Sanders' guest column (*B.A.R.*, 2/7) for speaking out on comments made by Associate Editor Ray O'Loughlin. If it was my son who had been shot by Bernard Goetz you better believe that Goetz would have never lived to see the light of day.

As an Associate Editor one would think O'Loughlin would be more responsible and adhere steadfastly to journalistic professionalism, yet his reckless disregard for the truth shows his lack of sensitivity in the area of race relations. With Gay Black employment in the Gay community less than 3 percent it is no injustice that Gay Black leaders see a much more difficult overall problem.

As Sanders pointed out the CUAV statistics showed 25 percent of the attacks against Gays were made by Black teens, but yet 40 percent of the attacks are committed by White youth. So where does O'Loughlin get off with not only inaccurate facts but grossly subjective conclusions? I hope that in the future he will think before he writes.

Skip Dawson
San Francisco

Easy Targets

★ It was pathetic to read Dion Sanders' attempt to deflect the thrust of Ray O'Loughlin's editorial on Black violence against Gays.

If the population of San Francisco is 12 percent Black and the Blacks account for 25 percent of the violence against Gays, Blacks are doing twice their share of violence against Gays. If 40 percent of the assaults are by whites, and half the city is white, then the whites and, logically, other groups are not doing their share of fag-bagging.

Gays have been the targets of Blacks in the Western Addition since the Gays began moving in and improving the place; the Blacks forget that they had displaced the original white settlers. Gays have a reputation for non-violence; that is one reason they are regarded as easy targets for violence. Yet any outnumbered white is not safe there; think of the unsuspecting tourists who have been mugged in the Western Addition. Gays, despite Bernard Goetz, do not arm themselves before riding the Muni. If they begin carrying weapons, they will only be emulating some of the other riders.

It is bad enough being Gay and white. How much worse it must be to be both Gay and Black, when one can do little besides raise a cry of racism when violent Black behavior is pointed out and deplored.

Thomas Scott
San Francisco

Example for Gay Businesses

★ The following was sent to Eric Pariser and Wayne Powell of the 2140 Club.

Due to the generous donation of the 2140 Club's facilities on the evening of Jan. 30, Mobilization Against AIDS was able to raise over \$1,000. Your extra contribution of roughly half the bar's receipts from that evening was an example that other businesses serving the Gay community should be proud to follow.

Mobilization Against AIDS, a community action group formed to demand more funding for AIDS research, the establishment of a national AIDS education effort, and a policy of responsibility concerning the privacy of individuals afflicted with AIDS wishes to publicly say "Thank You" to you and your staff for demonstrating your support and your concern in such a generous manner.

Scott Humphries
Monica Adkisson
Mobilization Against AIDS
San Francisco

Tribute to Fat Fairy

★ In the February 7 *Bay Area Reporter* Nez Pas wants to know who spoke to Mr. William Wong, the ombudsman of the *Oakland Tribune*, about Robert L. Wasoon (Fat Fairy).

Mea culpa, mea culpa, mea maxima culpa!

At the Town and Country Bar on Jan. 24 Fat Fairy's friends were fondly remembering him in story, after story, after story.

I suggested that the *Oakland Tribune* should be notified that an authentic *Oakland* character had died. One of his friends agreed, so I called the ombudsman.

Fat Fairy would have enjoyed his own funeral. His friends gave him a funeral of character perfectly suited for an *Oakland* character. I have never experienced hearing "The Lord's Prayer" sung so hauntingly lovely, with such a depth of emotion.

Even though, apparently, the *Trib*'s obituary contains a few errors, Nez Pas is off base in his total criticism of it.

The obituary sensitively captures Fat Fairy's character, the love for him of his friends, the wonderful flavor of his funeral, his charity for other human beings, and the commanding beauty of his final resting place on a slope at Mountain View Cemetery overlooking Fat Fairy's beloved *Oakland*.

The *Tribune* is the paper of record for *Oakland* and the East Bay. The obituary records Robert Wasoon for future historians of the Bay Area's Lesbian/Gay

community.

Most importantly of all, the current readers of the *Oakland Tribune*, especially its heterosexual readers were fleetingly touched by Fat Fairy's life because of the obituary.

The *Oakland Tribune* has shown, and is showing, a responsible willingness to cover the Bay Area's Lesbian/Gay community. Congratulations to them.

James F. Gibbons
San Leandro

Picking on Perkins

★ Since the days of "Prison Penpals" I haven't had much reason to respond to anything published in the *Bay Area Reporter*. Now I feel that I must . . . one more time!

I'm not really into the Steve Perkins' trip, but apparently some are into it so much that they must even take away his right to advertise in the *B.A.R.*

I just don't understand why they pick on Mr. Perkins' ad with a number of other ads in the classifieds, viz.: "Enjoy the Enema and Massage." Really what is the difference except for the size of the ad?

Actually, I would never have noticed the Steve Perkins' ad in the first place except for all the publicity about it.

Just two final thoughts: 1) These so-called concerned people should be able to find something more positive to be concerned about (like assisting our AIDS patients). 2) If guys didn't want Mr. Perkins' services, then I'm sure he wouldn't spend the \$\$ to run his ads.

Besides we can't all be the critical star that Rex Reed is!

To all at the *Bay Area Reporter* . . . keep up our mainstream publication. We all need you.

Larry Holvey
San Francisco

Heaven Help Us

★ Consider Steve Perkins' ads: While his claims sound slightly outlandish, most of them are not easily provable or disprovable. I think we must rely on common sense to separate truth from falsity.

Yes, it does worry me that some people might accept his statements at face value; but it worries me far more that people might do the same for statements from our mayor or her well-tethered cannons (headed by Dr. Werdegarr).

Have people forgotten the use of their wits? Brighten up, folks! You are responsible for your health, and neither the 'Health' Dept. nor Steve Perkins is liable to save you.

And heaven help us if they do.

Scott O'Hara
San Francisco

Critic's Rebuttal

★ I've twice been attacked in print by a frequent letter-writer regarding my review of *A Passage to India*. The first time he gave the impression he hadn't seen the film but thought it must be wonderful because it was based on a book by a Gay man, and he disputed a factual point on which I was correct. He followed his public slander with a private apology: "Didn't mean to quite (sic) take you to task as much as I did . . . I generally agree . . ."

Now he blasts me again, using 11 Academy Award nominations as ammunition. We all know what a farce the Oscars are—they would nominate David Lean if he made *lasagna*. If my judgment is being weighed against that of a group that picked Jeff Bridges in *Starman* over Philip Baker Hall (*Secret Honor*), Jack Lemmon (*Mass Appeal*) and Steve Martin (*All of Me*), I rest my case.

If we all had the same likes and dislikes there would only be a need for one critic, and the other zillion of us could retire. I only purport to offer one person's opinion. Still I maintain that *A Passage to India*, for all its impressive scope and grandeur, is seriously flawed by a lack of motivation for Judy Davis' character after the Marabar caves incident. The book may explain her apparent inconsistency but the film does not.


When the Gay press can support a full-time reviewer I may have more time for books. I spent my vacation last year reading *Dune*, but I won't have a vacation this year. The best films are complete in themselves and don't require homework.

Steve Warren
San Francisco

Talent

★ I wish to commend the talent that the *Bay Area Reporter* has utilized in our community. It is an asset to all those citizens of the community to know what the opinions and ideas of others are. We are all one big family, and we belong to the greatest city on earth. Unity and caring is what it is all about. Two very talented writers come immediately to my mind. The ever talented Wayne Friday and his very thorough Politics and Poker column is a must. Also, the fun Freise Frame by Mark Freise is just that, fun. We can never get enough of that.

Marvin-Michel LeGrier, II, Esq.
San Francisco



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DATELINE: THE WORLD

Marquee Says 'Quarantine Gays'

WILL SNYDER

Up in Wisconsin and Minnesota, the weather may be frigid, but rhetoric about Gays is heating up. One newspaper calls it "Marquee Wars."

One minister is attempting a snow job on Gays with his marquee, part of a church which used to be a theater. But the man of the cloth is being answered by another marquee, which advertises used books and records at another converted theater.

Rev. Craig Hultgren, pastor of the Victory Fellowship in Superior, Wis., has been making extensive use of what used to be the marquee for the Palace Theatre. Recently, he ran a sign aimed at Gays: "Stop AIDS Now. Quarantine Gays."

Not only did this sign draw some picketers in Superior, but also a response from a pro-Gay marquee owner in next-door Duluth, Minn.

Robert Carlson, who owns Chester's Used Books and Records, sent a message to the minister quicker than you could say "Jerry Falwell." Carlson went out to his marquee and put up the following rebuttal to Hultgren. "Aid Gays. Quarantine Bigots."

"At one time, I wouldn't have done something like this," said Carlson, "but now my priority is to speak my mind. If people don't like it, I figure they can buy their books somewhere else."

Hultgren has a grand plan. He looks into the future and sees quarantined cities, "such as San Francisco and New York."

Francis Hultgren is the only solution because of the fact that Gays, in his words, "refuse to change their lifestyles." He went on to refer to Gays as "a social menace," especially when they take vacations.

"When they go out on a sexual holiday . . . to Paris or wherever, they deposit a disease and come back," he said.

Hultgren said that he has been catching flack—from more than the picketers outside his church, and the bookstore owner in Duluth.

"Many in the Christian community have taken me to task," the minister said. "They say I'm not acting out of love. And maybe, in a way, I'm not. (But) in Superior, I believe we have not been adequately facing these issues."

★ ★ ★

Federal Court Hears Appeal For Sodomy Law

Gays are in the news in Texas again. A majority of judges in Texas' Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals voted to rehear a case which debated the state's sodomy law.

That law, called Penal Code 21.06, will be debated this June. The law makes homosexual activity illegal in The Lone Star State. But in 1982, District Court Judge Jerry Buchmeyer ruled that the "homosexual conduct" law was unconstitutional, that it violated Gays' rights to privacy and did not provide them with equal protection under the law.

In 1984, three appellate court judges ruled that Potter County (Amarillo) District Attorney Danny Hill did not have the right to appeal Buchmeyer's decision. According to the three judges, only Texas Attorney General Jim Mattox could ap-

peal the decision. Mattox did not appeal.

But Hill has resurfaced, taking his appeal to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. He has had strong backing from two private interest groups, Alert Citizens of Texas (ACT) and Dallas Doctors Against AIDS (DDAA). Both of these groups are paying for the appeal, which disturbs Thomas Coleman, Jr., the president of the Texas Human Rights Foundation.

"This goes beyond Danny Hill having the right to appeal," said Coleman. "This raises the question of whether a private group has the right to appeal (for the state of Texas)."

"That's the disturbing part," Coleman added. "Can any hate group claim they represent the State of Texas? Nobody elected them."

Coleman feels the Fifth Circuit Court may have been influenced by a Washington, D.C. Appeals Court decision made last year and written by notorious anti-Gay Judge Robert Bork, a man widely rumored to be President Reagan's next choice for an opening in the Supreme Court. Bork, in a decision involving a Gay man in the military, ruled that Gays did not have the right to privacy.

Dallas Doctors Against AIDS argue that sodomy laws are necessary to prevent the spread of AIDS. They also use health considerations to argue against Gay-rights laws. Several of its members have called for quarantining Gays.

★ ★ ★

Feds OK More Test Sites

Gay activists in Washington, D.C. are singing the praises of Health and Human Services Secretary Margaret Heckler these days.

Heckler was reacting to reports that the soon-to-be-available HTLV-3 antibody test may bring some individuals at high risk for AIDS to the nation's blood banks. She decided that people will be able to get the test without donating blood. She promised federal money for alternative testing sites.

People who favor the alternative sites praised Heckler's decision, saying that if test results were available only at blood banks, persons, at high risk for AIDS might go there for a blood test. Doing so could lead to donation of AIDS-tainted blood.

Gay activists and some of the nation's top health officials were also trying to delay the licensing of the Enzyme Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) test. Heckler wants to have the test licensed before February is over so the testing can begin in March. Many of the experts feel the ELISA test is not accurate enough to screen out all blood containing antibodies to the virus.

Meanwhile, the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund asked the Food and Drug Administration for information on the safety and effectiveness of the HTLV-3 antibody test. The organization is trying to get the information on the test's "false negative" and "false positive" rates.

★ ★ ★

'Copter Soars Over the Law

A helicopter company reneg-

ed on an original agreement with the city of New York regarding discrimination and got away with it, thanks to a New York court.

The controversy began when The Big Apple needed a new helicopter for its police department. The city contacted Bell Helicopter Textron, Inc., a Fort Worth, Tx. 'copter firm about possibly purchasing one of the firm's whirlybirds.

According to Irwin Frank, a business columnist with the *Dallas Times Herald*, Bell originally agreed to abide by the city's rules barring discrimination of Gays. But last August, Bell told New York it had changed its mind, even though it had already signed an agreement.

A New York court subsequently ruled that Mayor Edward Koch exceeded his authority in ordering the protection of job rights for Gays.

The \$1.3 million 'copter is now on its way to New York.

★ ★ ★

Wisconsin May Ban Poppers

Officials in Wisconsin are conducting hearings concerning the possible ban of nitrate inhalants, or "poppers."

Officials in the state's Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection are suggesting the ban because of several deaths allegedly linked to poppers. One man's death by asphyxiation was linked to a popper-soaked rag stuffed in his mouth.

At this stage, however, the same officials feel the hearings are necessary because of the difficulty of detecting the complete effects of the substance. They say the substance dissipates from the body quickly.

Massachusetts has prohibited poppers for five years. ■

★ ★ ★

This week's items are based on reports by *The Duluth (Minn.) News-Tribune* & *Herald*, the *Dallas Voice*, the *Washington Blade* and the *Gay Life of Chicago*.

Dion Sanders is on vacation and will return to "Dateline: The World" next week.

Blood Supply Is Safe, Feds Say

Hepatitis, not AIDS, is the greater risk for people getting blood from the nation's blood banks—and the blood supply is safer today than it was 10 years ago. This is the conclusion of the federal Office of Technology Assessment study released Feb. 6.

Dr. Lawrence H. Miike, the special project director, said "I think that that fear of AIDS really outstrips the actual risk that one has (in receiving blood transfusions). Hepatitis is of the most concern in the total sense, although AIDS has an emotional aspect. The blood supply is still fairly safe."

The physician said his study, conducted at the request of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, reveals that only about 1 percent of the known AIDS cases have been associated with blood transfusions. ■



POLITICS AND POKER

Their Weapon Is The AIDS Epidemic

WAYNE FRIDAY

With the AIDS medical crisis at its current height, it has apparently once again become open season for homophobes to "blame it on the Gays." A member of the audience on Monday's channel 5 "People Are Talking" program wondered aloud why the Gay community has to infect the rest of society with "their disease." Voters in Houston, Texas, while overwhelmingly rejecting Gay rights legislation, were warned that approval of the pro-Gay civil rights ordinance would "encourage more homosexuals to settle here, increasing the threat to your health." And in the South this weekend, some Democratic leaders there refused to meet with the newly-elected national Democratic chairperson, due in part to that party's open endorsement of the rights of Gays in the last national election—suggesting that the party turn its back on minority groups. Alabama state Democratic chairman, Jimmy Knight, in one of the most homophobic comments heard in recent years, declared that "We in Alabama reserve the right to discriminate against homosexuals."

In San Francisco, *Examiner* columnist Guy Wright, who long ago made his contempt of Gays public, tells us in a column Sunday that "the fast spread of AIDS is due almost entirely to the promiscuity of homosexuals." This isn't the first anti-Gay remark we have heard out of this homophobic columnist and probably won't be the last. But Wright, were he honest, would acknowledge that, while the majority of AIDS cases in the United States is suffered by Gays, the disease was originally a problem of heterosexuals among African nations. Today in Zaire there are 10,000 AIDS cases—most of them straight. How does Mr. Wright explain what medical officials are telling us from New York when they say that approximately 25 percent of that city's prostitutes are possible AIDS carriers? Even anti-Gay writers such as Guy Wright must know that prostitutes are not contracting this disease from Gay men.

Mr. Wright's Sunday column, in which he endorses the closing of Gay bathhouses—an idea which many Gay activists agree with—says that "if the bathhouses were closed, the world wouldn't end for Gays." When Wright speaks up for the rights of Sister Romana Marie Ryan, who recently waged a gallant struggle against AIDS and died, he makes a very poor argument for the closing of the baths—unless he is to suggest that a Gay bathhouse was where the nun contracted the disease.

No, Guy Wright does not really give a damn about how many Gay people contract AIDS, but like so many others of his ilk, he sees the current crisis as yet another means of curbing a lifestyle that he disapproves of. The gentleman from Alabama is by no means alone; even in San Francisco certain people "reserve the right to discriminate against homosexuals." But, trust me, it won't always be that way.

Is the Rev. Jerry Falwell thinking of political office for himself? Falwell says, no, he is "not interested" despite his eagerness to engage in public



King for a Day. Louise and Jack Molinari enjoying Coronation '85 last week (Photo: Rink)

debate whenever possible, and his constant pointing to popularity polls showing approval of his views. First Ted Kennedy allowed himself to be used by Falwell in a highly-publicized "debate" a couple of weeks ago. Last week it was NOW president Judy Goldsmith who fell for the Falwell trap in yet another well-covered appearance. Falwell fared better than either Kennedy or Goldsmith.

Next, the religious leader of the New Right takes on a foreign policy look when he travels to England to appear in front of the Oxford Union Debating Society on March 1 where he will spar with David Lange, the Prime Minister of New Zealand, a frequent critic of the Reagan Administration. . . . Don't forget the Department of Public Health's "Salute to Merv Silverman" on Friday, March 1, at the Gift Center on Brannan Street, a benefit for the AIDS Endowment Fund (\$15, 861-4794 for info) . . . Moving up in the world: Neil Eisenberg, the popular San Francisco attorney who served as Northern California chair for the Mondale-Ferraro campaign last year, has just been named counsel to the Northern California Democratic party . . . and friends of Board of Education member Libby Denebeim, re-elected last November, will hold a cocktail party-fundraiser to pay off her campaign debt March 7, 5 to 7 p.m. at the Vorp Gallery (contributors choice of \$25 on up, 821-6499 for info) . . . San Francisco's own Margo St. James the media star at the "International Committee for Prostitutes Rights" convention last week in Amsterdam (yes indeed, that Margo sure gets around).

Some 2,000 Republicans held their three-day state convention in Sacramento over the weekend. Conservative L.A. Supervisor Mike Antonovich is expected to step down before he serves his full term to run for statewide office. U.S. Senator Pete Wilson showed surprising strength when the candidate he endorsed, Bill Park of Bakersfield, won the second spot over more conservative Ingrid Azvedo.

ular supe a \$100 fundraiser at the Hyatt Union Square tonight (Thursday, the 21st); 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., with complimentary wine and hors d'oeuvres; 771-3200 for info . . . if Jesse Jackson makes many more threats about taking his followers and "walking out" on the Democratic Party, a number of important Demos are ready to let him walk . . .

The state of New York will soon require that all donated blood be tested for antibodies linked to AIDS; the legislation was approved last week but the date for the state's 450 blood banks to comply hasn't yet been set . . . I don't know how much this will help the mayor's cause, but the San Francisco County Republican Central Committee unanimously voted last week in favor of bringing the nuclear ship U.S.S. Missouri here . . . The Peninsula campaign between newly elected State Senator Becky Morgan (R) and her opponent Democrat Arlen Gregario set a new spending record in a state senate race; Morgan and Gregario spent a combined \$1.6 million, breaking

a previous \$1.4 million record set in a Southern California contest . . . The Oakland mayoral candidacy of Wilson Riles, Jr. appears to be an exercise in futility now that the political organization headed by Rep. Ron Dellums has decided to keep a neutral position in the bitter Riles-Wilson fight.

Even friends of Mayor Feinstein are saying that last week was definitely *not* one of Her Honor's better weeks—what with millions of dollars unaccounted for in the troubled Housing Authority, the demise of her hoped-for Downtown stadium, and the continuing problems with a police department that seems to have run amok. The lady must wonder why she even shows up for work some days . . . The 40th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter will be observed in San Francisco with a number of events from June 23rd through June 26, and the City can expect a visit by President Reagan during the celebration . . . Pollster George Gallup,

(Continued on next page)

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Politics

(Continued from previous page)

in town last week, told friends he sees a Bush-Kennedy race in 1988 . . . Rock and Roll's Chuck Berry appeared at the Hard Rock Cafe Monday, Feb. 25 in a fundraiser for the KRON-TV Airlift Africa fund with all proceeds going to Ethiopia (\$25, doors open at 9 p.m.).

Retired City College teacher Dean Goodman, a candidate for Community College Board last year, has protested the lower fine given to College Board member Amos Brown due to late filing of his campaign finance statements; Goodman, apparently still tasting sour grapes over his defeat, has complained to the FEPC, California Secretary of State, the Voter Registrar, and threatens to take it to the District Attorney. At least Mr. Goodman has finally found someone else to blame for his defeat than the Gay press . . . In St. Paul, Minnesota, former City Council President Robert Sylvester, once a rising star in that city's politics, has had sex-change surgery and has been hired by the city to a \$20,000 per year consultants job as Susan Kimberly. "I have a lot of confidence in her integrity," St. Paul Mayor George Latimer said last week . . . Attorney Shaye Hester has been appointed as a commissioner of the San Francisco Parking Authority.

In L.A., Councilman John Ferraro, making an all-out effort against Mayor Tom Bradley in the April mayoral race, has promised Gay activists that if elected he would seek and appoint qualified, openly Gay and Lesbian people to his administration. The incumbent mayor, Tom Bradley, has often been criticized by Gay activists for his lack of prominent Lesbian and Gays in his administration, but has attempted to counter that criticism when he recently pledged to appoint more . . . Congrats to Bob Barry, newly-elected president of the San Francisco Police Officers Assn . . . Lia Belli is in South Africa on a "business trip" . . . Senator Milton Marks is recuperating from a bout with the "flu" which had him hospitalized for a few days.

W. Friday

SF AIDS Foundation Seeks New Space

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the AIDS Health Project are urgently looking for low cost or donated space to relocate to within the next 45 days.

The Bank of America has generously assisted the Foundation over the past 1½ years by providing donated space at 54 Tenth Street. In this facility AIDS education and prevention efforts are coordinated for San Francisco and Northern California. The Foundation also maintains a food bank for People with AIDS on site and a staff of social workers to provide social service advocacy for People with AIDS and AIDS related conditions.

MUNI accessibility, handicap access, 24-hour, 7-day accessibility, conference room facilities, and office space for 28 staff and 10-20 volunteers are needed. The Foundation is looking for an improved space of 6,000 to 7,000 square feet with a long-term lease option of 2-5 years.



Film Crew (from L) is Rob Epstein; Editor Deborah Hoffman; and Richard Schmeichen. (Photo: Rink)

Behind the Effort For The Academy Award

'Life and Times' Has Good Chance
To Win First Gay-Film Oscar

by Allen White

"The Life and Times of Harvey Milk" received its first official screening as a motion picture nominated for an Academy Award in the "documentary feature" category. It is believed by several film researchers to be the first openly-Gay produced film to receive an Academy Award nomination.

The film was screened Wednesday afternoon this week at the Academy's Samuel Goldwyn Theatre in Beverly Hills. It will be screened in the evening on March 5 at 9:35. Following the nominations, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences sets an afternoon and an evening screening for Academy members. The ballots are sent out to members on March 9 and will have been returned by March 19 for tabulation.

Scott Smith, Harvey Milk's former lover, is making plans to be one of those in attendance at this year's Academy Award presentation on Monday evening, March 25. "I want to be there for Harvey," he said.

There are four other films nominated in the category. They are "Marlene," a documentary by Maximilian Schell on the life of Marlene Dietrich; "In The Name of the People," a film about conditions in El Salvador; "Streetwise;" and "High Schools."

Richard Schmeichen, co-filmmaker with Robert Epstein, said the plan is for a low-key approach in presenting the film to Academy members. He said that for a member to vote in this category, they must have viewed all five nominated films. He said this will substantially increase the chances for the film to win the award.

Schmeichen, in New York, said there will be an ad in *Variety* usually associated with large-budget films.

"The Life and Times of Harvey Milk" has received the New York Film Critics Award and has received critical acclaim almost everywhere the film has been shown. This month the film was presented at the Berlin Film Festival.

The film has played in several major cities across the United

States and continues its run in New York and at the Lumiere Theatre in San Francisco. The one major city where the film is not now playing is Los Angeles. Making the film available for viewing on a regular basis in the Southern California area would increase the film's opportunity to win an Academy Award. It is anticipated that the film may open soon at the Cineplex Theatre, a large multi-theatre complex in West Hollywood.

"The Life and Times of Harvey Milk" documents the life of San Francisco's first openly-Gay elected office holder. Elected in November, 1977 to the position of supervisor, he was assassinated in his office on November 27, 1978, less than one year after taking office. The film chronicles Harvey Milk's unique style as a force in the Gay movement and features the Castro area in much of the film.

A. White

Cable Car Award Given For Flags

The Board of Directors of the Cable Car Awards and Show honored Clyde Wildes with a special commendation for his project which placed banners along Market Street last summer. One set of flags was red, white and blue for the Democratic Convention and one set was rainbow colors for the Freedom Day Parade.

Wildes was honored at the Cable Car Awards, but his name was inadvertently left off the official list of winners compiled by the Awards.



On Trial for Fraud, Stockbroker Brant (l.) is questioned by attorney while David Carpenter (near r.) and Foster Winans (far r.) watch from defense table.

Lovers' Relationship at Center Of Wall Street Fraud Trial

by Morgan Pinney

NEW YORK — The importance of Gay relationships is figuring prominently in one of the most closely watched trials now taking place in America. R. Foster Winans, a former columnist for *The Wall Street Journal*, and his lover, David Carpenter, are on trial. The U.S. government is prosecuting the Gay lovers along with another man, Kenneth Feliz, for trading in stocks on the basis of pre-publication information "leaked" by Winans. Winans is accused of leaking "inside information" to profit on stocks. The court is being told that Carpenter's participation was due solely to his "spousal relationship" with Winans.

The trial is receiving intense media attention because it represents the first time the government has tried to prosecute a journalist for "insider trading." Winans is not being prosecuted for stealing information from *The Wall Street Journal*. Rather, he is being prosecuted for using that information to trade in stocks.

Such "fraudulent" trading in a company's stock is illegal for those who are privy to information about that company before it is made public. Winans asserts that he was not an "insider" but rather an outsider who gathered public information and then wrote about it in his column. He did, however, "leak" the topics of some of those columns to a few people in advance of publication day, enabling them to profit from the often dramatic change in a stock's price once it was mentioned in print.

He is charged with defrauding *The Wall Street Journal* in violation of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934. Winans confessed to all the basic facts in the case long ago, but he denies that he broke any securities laws. Furthermore, Winans' lawyers say that prosecuting him for violating his employer's rules is tantamount to allowing criminal conduct to be defined by an employer's internal rules.

"That's patently unconstitutional," contends Winans' attorney, Don Buckwald. Since all court testimony supports the fact that Winans' articles were accurate and since the stock trading was legal, no fraud has been committed, he says.

The lawyers for David Carpenter are basing his defense squarely on his position as Winans' lover. They say that he was not a co-conspirator, as the government contends, but rather a "spouse" who did not plan the leaks or the stock trading, even though he acted as a courier between the parties and received payments made out in his name.

It's a novel legal approach,

according to Leonard Graff of National Gay Rights Advocates in San Francisco. Tim Sweeny, Executive Director of Lambda Legal Defense in New York says, "We find this defense very innovative, creative—and unprecedented. We are following the case with great interest."

Gay rights lawyers have long sought to expand court recognition of Gay relationships—with mixed results. For example, they have never gotten the courts to grant spousal immunity to Gay people. Under this concept, married heterosexual couples, even common law spouses, cannot be compelled to testify against each other.

Winans sought Carpenter's assistance and compassion as any man might ask these things of a spouse. The two men wear wedding rings and sit closely together in the courtroom. Their relationship is referred to frequently in court in the most respectful of terms.

They have remained together despite the pressure of this trial and the publicity which has focused on them since the story broke in early 1984. One close friend, Lucia Valeska, former executive director of the National Gay Task Force, says she is amazed that they have been able to endure the experience as a couple without turning away from each other.

All the testimony in court supports the fact that Winans and Carpenter have been very close for many years. It was Carpenter's extensive medical bills which seem to have prompted Winans' willingness to undertake the scheme with Peter Brant, even though he knew he was placing his entire career as a journalist in jeopardy.

Winans made all the arrangements to feed pre-publication tips to stockbroker Peter Brant while they strolled alone on a Long Island golf course one day in the fall of 1983.

It seems that Brant was motivated to join the scheme by a financial bind of his own. At the

age of 30, he was one of the most successful stockbrokers on Wall Street, earning an incredible \$2 million in commissions in 1982.

But he had been spending it rapidly too. He had a house on Long Island, several luxury condominiums in Manhattan, a yacht, an art collection, a chauffeur named "Ricardo," and a wife. When the stock market began to fall in 1983, he was in deep trouble.

Brant's employer, Kidder-Peabody and Co., had detected the correlation between *The Wall Street Journal* columns and trading by Brant.

Brant lied that he knew nothing about it and knew no one at *The Wall Street Journal*. Kidder-Peabody attorneys never claimed that anything illegal might have been afoot and they certainly didn't want to lose Brant's lucrative accounts. Brant then set up a Swiss bank account and continued the scheme.

Defense attorneys contend that Brant's financial position prompted him to suggest the scheme to Winans originally. Brant counters that it was Winans who cooked up the scheme. Both sides agree that Winans was always truthful in the articles he wrote, never slanting the facts or picking a topic in order to make money on stock trading.

Brant is now the government's main prosecution witness, having plea-bargained after being confronted with charges of other criminal wrongdoing in addition to the charges in this case.

Understandably, Brant is being grilled by defense attorneys. He agrees that he had never suspected the scheme with Winans to be illegal until the government suggested to him that it was. He knew of the lover relationship between Winans and Carpenter and seems respectful of it, denying a defense contention that he ever referred

(Continued on next page)

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Wall St. Fraud Trial

(Continued from page 11)

to Carpenter as a "silly little faggot."

Brant has testified that his own wife knew very little of the details of the scheme with Winans yet received and spent some of the profits from it—which is exactly the "spousal" relationship Carpenter says he enjoyed with Winans.

As the government investigation got underway in 1983, Carpenter became a fierce defender of Winans in his dealings with Brant. Acting like a lion defending his mate, Carpenter was "animated and excited" according to trial testimony, causing quite a scene in the Oak Bar of the swank Plaza hotel, telling Brant that if he did anything to harm Winans they would marshal unspecified Gay liberation groups in their behalf.

Brant says he didn't feel very threatened by such claims. He did, however, make plans to flee to Brazil.

He went to Florida instead.

Carpenter and Winans very quickly went to the Securities and Exchange Commission investigators and told all the details which are now being used against them in court. Brant admits that he tried to get them to deny everything, even having Carpenter prepare phony invoices for "decorating services" to disguise the kickbacks Brant made to him.

Brant was shocked to find that the payments had been deposited to a joint bank account which Winans and Carpenter maintained like a married couple. Brant didn't even maintain a joint bank account with his own wife!

The seriousness of the case is highlighted by the large number of reporters covering the trial and artists sketching it (since cameras are not allowed in the courtroom). Nearly a dozen lawyers are present in the courtroom on behalf of the many entities with an interest in this case.

Journalists feel the government is trying to extend its power over the press. They point out that the current trial is a criminal proceeding charging 61 criminal counts, each carrying a possible penalty of 5 years (for a total of 305 years). Originally the charges were contained only in a civil case.

The trial has been slightly overshadowed by two other well-known trials taking place in the same building in lower Manhattan. Television crews have lingered on the courthouse steps anticipating glimpses of participants in the libel trials of William Westmoreland against CBS and Ariel Sharon against Time Magazine.

The Winans trial is being heard by a judge without a jury, partially because of defense fears of homophobic attitudes on the part of jurors. It has now recessed until March 12.

M. Pinney

Women's Therapy Group

Operation Concern will hold a twelve-week therapy group for Lesbians from mid-March until June. The group will meet on Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. until 12 noon. Topics of discussion depend on participants' needs. Fees are on a sliding scale. Call 626-7000 for an interview appointment.

Decline in New AIDS Cases Ends; City Tops 900; Nation Nears 8,000

The three-month decline in numbers of new AIDS cases in San Francisco ended in January. A record number of 62 new cases of AIDS was logged for January. This compared to 31 new cases for January a year earlier.

The national total of AIDS cases was 7,981 as of Jan 21. Of those, 3,819—or 48 percent—had died.

In San Francisco, the total number of AIDS cases reached 930, of which 433—or 47 percent—had died.

Dr. David Werdegard, Director of Public Health, expressed hope for the future.

"One of the markers we have used to evaluate the Gay community's commitment to supporting safe sexual activities is the rate of rectal gonorrhea that began in 1982 leveled off throughout most of 1984.

"Now I am pleased to report that the rate of rectal gonorrhea for the months of November, December and January was the lowest of any three-month period since well before the epidemic began," Werdegard said.

The rate of other sexually-transmitted diseases in Gay men has declined as well.

Dr. Dean Echenberg, Director of the Bureau of Communicable Disease Control, encourages members of the Gay community to continue practicing safe sex, which outside of celibacy, is the only way to prevent acquiring or transmitting AIDS through sexual contact.

He cautioned people not to expect an immediate drop in the number of AIDS cases because of the long incubation period of the disease. The changes taking place today should be reflected in lower rates of infection and disease over the next few years.

A recent research study in San Francisco has shown that 63 percent of Gay men have not been exposed to the virus. In order to limit the epidemic it is essential that the community continues to encourage and support safe sex activities that do not involve exchange of body fluids.

Dr. Echenberg advises high risk men needing assistance in changing sexual practices and improving and maintaining their health to contact the AIDS Hotline (415) 863-AIDS, at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

From a press release provided by San Francisco Dept. of Public Health.

DEATHS

Don Jacobs

Don Jacobs, one of the founders of Gay Rap, died Jan. 6 in Seattle of AIDS-related complications.

Jacobs was a moving force behind Gay Rap, the consciousness raising and networking organization which began in 1970 and grew to attract weekly meetings of as many as 300 during the late 1970s. In 1980, on the occasion of Gay Rap's 10th anniversary, Jacobs was honored by

Supervisor Harry Britt for Jacob's role in helping to organize Gay Rap.

Jacobs left San Francisco more than two years ago, dropping out of sight. His whereabouts were unknown to many of his friends. He had moved to Seattle where, last summer, he was diagnosed with AIDS. Several of his local friends flew to Seattle late last year to visit Jacobs in the hospital.

Martin Cox

Martin James "Marty" Cox II died Feb. 13. He ended his nearly four-year struggle against AIDS on the eve of Valentine's Day, surrounded in his home by those who love him.



Marty will be remembered for his kindness and concern by the victims of the Folsom Street fire, whose tragedy he tried to ease. He will be remembered for his generosity by the many

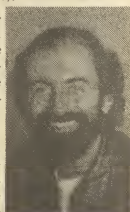
Tenderloin residents who came to his thrift shops, whose needs for the essentials of life he tried to meet. And he will be remembered for his strength by the many people with AIDS whose fear he tried to assuage and whose burden he tried to lighten.

Friends are invited to a memorial gathering for the sharing of fond memories tonight, Thursday Feb. 21, at 6 p.m., at Valencia Rose.

Richard Valentino

A memorial service will be held for Richard A. "Val" Valentino, Sunday Feb. 23 in Palm Springs. All of Val's many Northern California friends are invited. Inquiries may be made to Christine Steiner at (619) 329-5175 (eves.).

Val died recently in Palm Springs at age 44 after a prolonged struggle with AIDS-related diseases. Originally from New York, Val called California home. His legacy of love and positive living will endure him forever to the many people whose lives were enriched by him.



Contributions in Val's memory may be made to the Shanti Foundation. Contact Michael Fiorentino days at (415) 558-9644.

We will never forget you, beloved "Macaveeti".

Hospice Hoedown Nets over \$5,000

The Rawhide Bar was packed to the rafters on Feb. 3 for a benefit for Hospice of San Francisco's AIDS Program Attendant Care Fund. An estimated 500 people raised \$5,100 to help pay for attendant support for people with AIDS. Rawhide owner Ray Chalker, himself, donated publicity and food for the benefit, as well as a San Francisco 49ers football autographed by Joe Montana.

Hospice utilizes a team of health professionals, volunteers and attendants to provide skilled and compassionate support for people with AIDS in their own homes. The biggest need these people experience is for professional attendants who provide the personal care, bathing, cooking and house-keeping chores that gravely ill AIDS patients cannot do for themselves.

Police Review Chief Defends Case Dismissals

**Changing Behavior of Cops,
Not Proving Cases, Is Goal, He Says**

by Ray O'Loughlin

Office of Citizen Complaints director Frank Schober defended the recent dismissal of 300 complaints of misconduct against San Francisco police. He said that his office was "going to go after wrongful behavior on the part of police officers in every way we can."

Schober responded to a *Bay Area Reporter* (Feb. 14) article in which one Gay man, Robert Bryant, said his complaint had been unfairly dismissed. Schober said, "The District Attorney dismisses cases on the same basis we do." He said the chief problem was lack of evidence.

Schober said Bryant's protest was one of only two such responses the OCC had received since mailing out the notices beginning last November.

In his formal complaint, Bryant described how he and a friend had been stopped on March 16, 1984 for jaywalking across Market Street after leaving a bar.

Bryant said one policeman repeatedly called the two Gay men "faggots" and when Bryant objected, he was arrested for drunkenness and kept overnight in Mission Station. He was never given a sobriety test, despite his demands for one.

Schober told *B.A.R.* that Bryant's case was weakened by the fact that there were no independent witnesses. The one witness, Bryant's companion, was also arrested and detained.

"It comes down to a one-on-one situation," said Schober, who explained that sobriety tests are routinely given in felony charges of drunkenness but not in misdemeanor cases such as Bryant's. He said that no new evidence beyond the original complaint had been submitted to warrant a re-opening of Bryant's case.

But Schober said it was misleading to regard such cases as dismissed. "These cases are not dismissed entirely," he said. "Every allegation will become part of an officer's permanent record and will follow him/her everywhere." He said that the OCC was concerned with "pattern evidence."

"In cases where complaints accumulate with one officer, he can be removed, counseled and re-trained, even if no complaints are formally sustained," Schober said.

With 75 to 100 new cases each week—5,000 cases a year—Schober said he was concerned about "getting the input down." The best way to do that, he said, was to "strengthen the chain of command" in the SFPD so that officers on the street don't abuse

people.

He cited the example of recent incidents involving officers at Potrero Station who had accumulated a series of complaints. "None were provable," said Schober, "but the list got so long that (Deputy Chief George) Emil ordered it (the abuse) stopped. Not a complaint has been received since then."

Schober outlined a new system whereby the OCC now reports daily to all SFPD commanders on complaints received against their officers. "Every commander sees the reports every morning in which any complaints reported in the past 24 hours are listed plus the pattern of accumulated complaints on a specific officer."

Schober said, "Captains are now showing an interest in supporting OCC and holding the chain of command responsible for their officers." He said he believed the department's resistance to OCC was diminishing.

Schober also plans to recommend that an officer's record of sustained complaints be considered in promotions just as commendations presently are. A number of proven complaints could deny a promotion. "When word gets out that that's the policy," said Schober, "it'll make a difference."

Since December, OCC hearings have been halted while a dispute with the Police Officers Association over procedures was resolved.

On the issue of police spying on OCC computer files, Schober said, "All systems can be broken into but we can improve the odds (of confidentiality) with a system that is resistant to being broken." On top of that, he said, should be added layers and layers of watchdogs to insure security.

Mineheart 'Man of the Year' At Motorcycle Award

by Mister Marcus

Charlie Mineheart, a member of the Warlocks M/C, was voted Man of the Year at the Barbary Coasters Motorcycle Awards Saturday night, Feb. 16, at the Hungarian Hall on Geary Street.

The colorful trooping of the colors of the various Bay Area and California fraternal organizations opened the 3-hour extravaganza. More than once the crowd broke into tumultuous applause as various individual and group entertainers once again mimed the show numbers from various out-of-town bike shows during the "run" season last year.

The Barbary Coasters took top honors as they once again garnered the Best Run of the Year with their Tara! Tara! Tara! weekend run last August. Barbary Coaster Road Captain Gene Forrest presented the first award to Frank Benoit, a member of the Constantines M/C in a surprise tribute.

Warren Cave, a member of the Phoenix Uniform Club, was honored separately by the Barbary Coasters for his long years of contributions to the club community.

Winners in the other categories are as follows:

BEST CAMPSITE ON A RUN—The 42nd Street Gang
BEST OPEN SOCIAL FUNCTION—SF GDI's 10th Anniversary Party
BEST NON-BIKE COMPETITIVE EVENT ON A RUN—Miss GDI Contest - GDI's
BEST ONE DAY RUN—Box Lunch Social - SF GDI/CMC
BEST OVERALL MOTORCYCLE FIELD EVENTS/IN TOWN—Constantines M/C
BUDDY MOTORCYCLE EVENT—Going to the Opera/Cycle Runners M/C
RIDER MOTORCYCLE EVENT—Going to the Opera/Cycle Runners M/C

CLUB WITH BEST OVERALL MOTORCYCLE EVENTS—Warlocks M/C

BEST FOOD ON A WEEKEND RUN—SF GDI's

BEST RUN THEME—Barbary Coasters Tara, Tara, Tara!

BEST GUEST NIGHT PERFORMANCE—A Tie/Miss America & Miss Runner Up and You're Gonna Love Me

BEST INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE IN A RUN SHOW—Splash! Bobby Wong

BEST GROUP PERFORMANCE IN A RUN SHOW—Thriller/Warlocks M/C

BEST SHOW ON A WEEKEND RUN—Barbary Coasters M/C

BEST PERFORMANCE BY AN INDIVIDUAL IN-TOWN SHOW—When You're Good to Mama - Wayne Wenger

BEST PERFORMANCE BY A GROUP IN-TOWN—Simple Melody

BUDDY RIDER OF THE YEAR—Jack Coates - Constantines M/C

RIDER OF THE YEAR—Yoshi Matsuda (Independent)

MAN OF THE YEAR—Charlie Mineheart/Warlocks M/C

BEST WEEKEND RUN OF THE YEAR—Tara, Tara, Tara! - Barbary Coasters M/C

AIDS Safe-Sex Guidelines[©]

June 1984

© Bay Area Physicians For Human Rights (1984)

SAFE SEX PRACTICES

- Massage, Hugging
- Mutual Masturbation
- Social Kissing (Dry)
- Body-to-Body Rubbing (Frottage)

POSSIBLY SAFE SEX PRACTICES

- French Kissing (Wet)
- Anal Intercourse WITH Condom
- Sucking - Stop Before Climax
- Watersports - External Only
- Cunnilingus
- (Risk Increases With Multiple Partners)

UNSAFE SEX PRACTICES

- Rimming
- Fisting
- Blood Contact
- Sharing Sex Toys
- Semen or Urine in Mouth
- Anal Intercourse Without Condom
- Vaginal Intercourse Without Condom

AIDS Information Hotlines

○ (415) 863-AIDS in San Francisco

○ Toll-Free in N. CA: 800-FOR-AIDS

○ TY (415) 864-6606

Another Message From The San Francisco AIDS Foundation

BAY AREA REPORTER FEBRUARY 21, 1985 PAGE 13

OUT OF THE BARS— AND OUT OF THEIR SEATS!

Bartenders' Folly Packs the House And Knocks 'Em for a Loop

For those who say San Francisco is losing its lead as Gay Mecca, we prescribe a shot of **Men Behind Bars**. The show proved again why San Francisco is the center of the Gay Universe.

The 107 members of the cast, all volunteers, prepared for months. The 3-hour extravaganza they produced was nothing short of Busby Berkeley in scope. The hats alone were worth the price of admission. The only people who worked as hard as the cast—and had as much fun—was the crowd. We don't rave about a show unless it deserves it. We're raving about this one.

You say you missed it? Plan to attend next year or you might find yourself banished to someplace dull like L.A. In the meantime, catch the video.

And the best part: It was all a fund-raiser for the Shanti Project and the Band Foundation.

Working hard, getting outrageous, having a great time—and doing it all with the flair that says SAN FRANCISCO! That's what we're all about. And that's why we wouldn't want to be anyplace else. ■

Brian Jones

Clockwise from top right: Ed Stark, owner of the Special, flies away at culmination of "Ballet de Nothing Special" as Ray Perea gives him a lift (Photo: R. Pruzan); The "girl" in the tuti-fruti hat is David Sabado as a bunch of top bananas strut their stuff (Photo: R. Pruzan); Kate Smith—looking a bit like Mr. Marcus—belts out God Bless America (Photo: R. Pruzan); Kimo, of the bar by the same name, sets crowd on fire with his Samoan Fire Dance (Photo: Rink); and Will Tucker of Fife's makes moon eyes while singing Sondheim's "I Never Do Anything Twice" (Photo: R. Pruzan).



MEN BEHIND BARS



Clockwise from top left: Can you believe it? — This is just some of the 107-member cast (Photo: R. Pruzan); A close-up of "Miss Liberty" shows a hunk in a jock strap beneath — and yes, that's a HAT (Photo: R. Pruzan); Randall Krivonik and Carmelo Millan in a stirring pas de deux (Photo: Rink); Some in the audience were moved to tears by the show (Photo: R. Pruzan); Leather and steel meets Pussies of the South Pacific, from Amelia's and Maud's (Photo: Rink); and, backstage, some of the cast members help each other adjust those essential parts of the costume (Photo: R. Pruzan).



GREATER BAY NEWS

Stanford Sets Probe Of Anti-Gay Incident

Frat Boys Re-Enact Attack On Segal's 'Gay Lib' Sculpture

Stanford University's Dean of Student Affairs, James Lyons, agreed Friday Feb. 8 to Lesbian and Gay Students' call for an investigation of the recent fraternity reenactment of the destruction of George Segal's "Gay Liberation" sculpture. Lyons stated that the university will look into the stunt: its initiation and the intent of the participants.

"Dean Lyons has shown a sincere interest in getting to the bottom of this frightening event," said David Cuff, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford (GLAS) spokesperson. GLAS hopes this will begin much needed dialogue between Gay people and fraternity members.

The incident took place in White Plaza on Jan. 15, disrupting a rally commemorating Martin Luther King, Jr. Four pledges of Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) fraternity powdered themselves white and assumed the exact pose of the Segal sculpture while other pledges gestured at them with hammers.

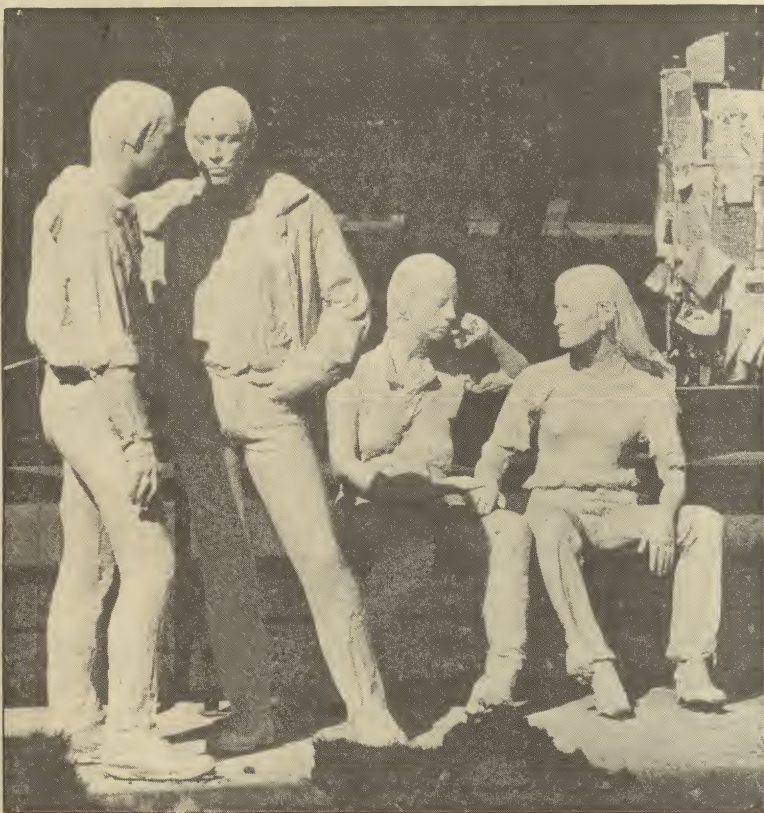
"I was angered and ashamed," said bystander Su Uhland, Stanford student. "The attack on the sculpture itself last year was an embarrassment for Stanford. For one of our own organizations to reenact it is sick." Uhland was one of four people who met with Lyons and Assis-

stant Dean of Residential Education Diana Conklin.

The Black community also felt a sense of outrage at the act. Steve Phillips, the chair of the Black Student Union (BSU) stated, "The Black Student Union was angered and offended by the actions of the SAE fraternity at the rally on Dr. King's birthday. It was an intolerable attack on the Gay community as well as a mockery of the principles of acceptance, brotherhood, and sisterhood we were there to celebrate."

GLAS Steering Committee members initiated Friday's meeting with Lyons out of concern that this incident reflects broad insensitivity among the fraternities, particularly in light of other irresponsible acts this school year.

From a press release provided by Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford.



A Morbid Anniversary is what Frat brothers gave the Segal "Gay Lib" sculpture when they reenacted March, 1984 vandalism.

State Appeals Court Hears Domestic Partners Bias Case

On Feb. 19, the California Court of Appeals for the Third Appellate District heard oral argument in the case of *Hinnman vs. California Department of Personnel Administration*. The suit challenges the state policy of denying dental insurance benefits to family partners of Lesbian and Gay state employees.

Boyce Hinnman, a long-time employee of the California Employment Development Department, applied for dental insurance benefits for his family partner of 12 years. Spouses of heterosexual employees are entitled to these benefits. The Department of Personnel Administration denied Hinnman coverage for his partner, despite his claim that as a Gay employee with a family partner, he was in effect being paid less than his heterosexual co-workers, because he had to pay an additional sum for his partner's insurance.

The Lesbian Rights Project, a San Francisco-based, public interest law firm, represented Hinnman at trial and represents him in this appeal. The Project charges in the appeal that Lesbian and Gay state employees are denied equal protection under the California Constitution, and are being discriminated against in contravention of the Governor's Executive Order B-54-79.

The Hinnman case is the first case of its kind to be brought to the appellate level. Its outcome could have significant impact on the rights of Lesbian and Gay state employees to equal employment benefits as an element of compensation.

From a press release provided by Lesbian Rights Project.

Oakland Elections Forum

On Sunday evening, Feb. 24, candidates running for Oakland Mayor, City Council, School Board, and Peralta College Board will address the East Bay Lesbian/Gay community at a candidates forum to be held at the Claremont Middle School, 5750 College Ave., one block north of the Rockridge BART station in Oakland.

The Forum starts at 7 p.m. and will run to about 10 p.m. It is being co-sponsored by the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club and the Oakland Block Organizing Committee. The latter organization is a recently formed group of Oakland women, mainly Lesbians, who wish to become more politically active in that city's affairs.

The meeting, a free public forum, will be followed by an endorsement vote of members of the EBL/GDC only. Candidates will need 60% for endorsement, and there will be only one ballot. For more information, call 841-4663, or 843-2459.

AIDS Forums In East Bay

The Pacific Center's East Bay AIDS Project is conducting a weekly series of educational forums on the AIDS epidemic as it is affecting Alameda County (with over 100 cases throughout the county), the nation (with over 8,000 cases), and the world. Since people of all races, ages and lifestyles are being diagnosed with AIDS, the forums will include discussions of the disease, who is at risk, how the disease is transmitted, risk reduction guidelines, medical developments, impact of an AIDS diagnosis on the person with AIDS, family and friends.

Public library meeting rooms have been chosen for the forums whenever possible, since they are accessible to public transportation and centrally located. In Alameda and Albany, the forums will be in school libraries. All forums will be from 7-9 p.m. The schedule is as follows:

FEBRUARY

- 19 - Castro Valley, 20055 Redwood Road, Castro Valley, 881-6036
- 27 - Pleasanton, 4333 Black Avenue, Pleasanton, 462-3535 (this is a Wednesday)

MARCH

- 5 - Newark, 6300 Civic Avenue Terrace, Newark, 791-4792
- 12 - Albany, Albany Middle School Library, 1000 Jackson, Albany, 526-6441
- 19 - San Lorenzo, 395 Paseo Grande, San Lorenzo, 881-6034

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Diners' Club

SUBLIME BURRAKHANA
(An Erectating Nose?)

To my knowledge, nothing like it has ever been done before in the Bay Area. Consider the logistics: recruiting seven "gourmet" cooks, each doing a particular course for a grand dinner of 60 servings; selecting five waiters and one cocktail waiter, who will volunteer their time for an evening; requesting (and receiving) table decorations, advertising graphics and ticket printing, and press coverage; inventorying and accumulating all necessary utensils and serveware; setting up a timetable and schedule of events so the left hands would always know what the right hands were doing; overseeing all details, including those ever-present last-minute emergencies which always crop up; and presiding over nearly three score scrutinizing members of the Gay community.

Miracles do happen, and Mr. Lumberjack III George certainly gave ALL title holders something to think about. I won't say something to aim for, as most title holders won't even open their armamentaria, much less their eyes, until their particular sobriquet is up for grabs.

"A Bit of Heart with a Touch of Class" just has to go down in the books as one of the rarest evenings ever witnessed by any follower of fundraising events. Wednesday evening Feb. 13 was, indeed, long, but not nearly as long as some coronations and investitures. After all, nine courses of food do take time to serve and consume. A "Fast-food palace" it was not!

Consider, if you will, sitting down to: stuffed mushroom caps and bacon-wrapped stuffed prunes, herb and garlic pastas with meat and white clam sauce, salmon in walnut-thyme butter *en croute*, sweet golden cream of mushroom soup, ginger-tea sorbet, breast of chicken Vapalsane, dilled tomatoes with Parmesan cheese, spinach and Mandarin orange salad, and lemon mirror cake. That, dear reader, cannot be consumed in 30 minutes.

Mr. Lumberjack wishes to gratefully thank the cooks who all did an outstanding job: Barry Casselman, Jeff Albin, Yours Truly, Hank Goul, Pierre Nunot, Paul Vierra, and Jim Heath. Extra special appreciation to the floor people: Dean, Kevin, Rick, Steve, Bruce, and Kevin. Grateful acknowledgment goes to the 59 who bought tickets, and the 55 who participated in the event. Extra special kudos must go to Rick Woolley, whose organizational talents exceeded all expectations; and Phil, whose generosity made possible the fabulous table decorations and souvenirs. Also, Pierre's coolness and consistency made the kitchen duty go very smoothly.

As mentioned earlier, emergencies do happen, and when the promised dishwasher didn't appear, Jeff Albin and Hagatha pitched in to accomplish the thankless task. Don't put too much credence to rumors that Nez Pas was seen scrubbing a pot or two!

Gross ticket sales totaled a marvelous \$885. Expenditures for food, printing, wines, etc., came to \$318., leaving a grand total of \$629. going directly to the participants in Alameda County Special Olympics. Their track competition at Laney College on Saturday, April 20, is a

NEZ PAS

"must attend" in my book.

Because of the success of that type of fundraiser, it was heard that it just might become an annual event. When the suggestion was brought to George's attention, he was heard to say something to the effect: "Next year? Hell, I'm already thinking about Easter!"

For a first-time-ever type thing, I think everything went exceptionally well and there are 55 overly required diners in our midst.

OMNIUM-GATHERUM
(An Around 'n' About Nose)

The Turf Club in Hayward had its Valentines celebration with a different twist. Topping off the festivities was a striptease contest; and the winning ecdysiast was none other than Joe Garza, who, if I remember correctly, was elected to Mr. somethingorother of Alameda County. To my knowledge, nothing was ever done with that title—by any of its winners.

Big Mama's went "heart and heavy" for this season of lovers, as proved by its changing decorative wall. The stunning hunk, at the center of attention, certainly rates more than a passing glance. Another panoramagram is planned for the near future, but this particular one will be long remembered.

No news is slow news: work on the re-flooding of the Spoiled Brat hasn't as yet commenced by the landlord, thus preventing all other remodeling plans. Chomping at the bit is a tad mild for describing Frumpy and his crew.

This is really an "in" story, as it were, but the gist went something like this. It seems that one bar owner called another bar's manager to ask how one goes about getting a cab phone installed in his bar!

Rick, senior bartender at Revol, raffled off a Cabbage Patch doll, splitting the proceeds between the Battered Children's Fund and Special Olympics. He sold \$124. worth of tickets, meaning each charity received \$62.

The winning ticket was drawn on the night of Mr. Lumberjack III's dinner party, and the winner was—you guessed it—Mr. Lumberjack III. I can't imagine what he is going to do with a doll. Come to think about it, yes I can! He'll re-raffle the toy at a later date, proceeds going to the same charities.

Now that L.C. has convinced Bobby of Lancers to organize a softball league in the East Bay, L.C. herself wants to organize a cribbage tournament. Off the top of my pointed head, I can name eight contenders, if and when the tournament materializes.

The East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, along with the Oakland Block Organizing Committee, presents a Candidates Forum and Endorsement Meeting on Sunday, Feb. 24, 7 p.m., at Claremont Middle School's Multi-Purpose Room, 5750 College Avenue, in Oakland. The meeting will focus on Oakland mayor, City Council members, School Board members, and Peralta College Board members. For more information call 843-2459.

I'm curious. Is there an East Bay Lesbian/Gay Republican Club?

A compromise will always be more expensive than whatever it is compromising. I'll try to smile. Love, Nez

Hopeful News on Vitamin C and AIDS

by Keith Barton, M.D.

On Sunday, Feb. 17, the *San Francisco Examiner* reported on a promising, new treatment for AIDS which used a combination of intensive psycho-social and nutritional therapy. This treatment program has been coordinated by Dr. Russell Jaffe, M.D., Ph.D. of Vienna, Virginia. Dr. Jaffe reported on the preliminary results of his study before the Orthomolecular Medical Society in San Francisco on February 16, 1985. I had the opportunity to hear his presentation and to speak with Dr. Jaffe in detail afterwards. I was impressed and encouraged by what I heard, and I would like to share some of this information with others.

Dr. Jaffe's study has involved a collaborative effort in five cities across the country from Boston to Santa Barbara, Ca. It has included 19 patients with AIDS. Seven of these patients had KS alone, four had PCP alone, and seven had both conditions before starting therapy.

Several had received chemotherapy before entering the study. Most patients have been in the program for about one year, and a few have been in it for nearly two years. Of these, only one has died, and what is better, those who are living are substantially improved in terms of subjective well-being, regression of KS lesions, and improvements in their laboratory tests such as the T cell helper/suppressor ratio. Jaffe's study shows.

In a few cases, this improvement has been about tenfold with the helper/suppressor ratio rising from less than 0.2 to between 1.8 and 2.0. Most of the patients were quite ill at the onset of the program, and most are substantially improved. It is too soon to describe these patients as "cured of AIDS," but the medical term, "remission," which is used in cancer therapy, seems justified, the study says.

The therapy program which Dr. Jaffe has designed is complex. It demands a great deal of commitment from both the person with AIDS and from his network of friends.

A major part of the therapy program involves emotional and interpersonal work and development, which requires much time and effort. This is combined with an extensive diagnostic evaluation checking for everything from amoebas to adrenalin levels.

This is followed by a therapeutic diet reinforced by large amounts of nutritional supplements (particularly Vitamin C), minerals, and several herbal preparations (particularly ginseng).

This comprehensive program can be criticized in several ways. First, the period of observation is too short (about one year in most cases) to be conclusive that a prolonged remission has occurred.

Second, the people in the program were, by necessity, highly motivated as well as physically able to meet the demands of the program. Perhaps they would

have done relatively well anyway.

Third, the program involves a variety of treatment modalities that are unfamiliar and often alien to most medical practitioners.

Despite these limitations, this program for treating AIDS is hopeful and promising. Perhaps with continued use, it can be shortened and streamlined so that it is more readily available to persons with AIDS—at least until medical research finds the wonder drug that cures AIDS once and for all.

Keith Barton is a physician practicing in Berkeley.

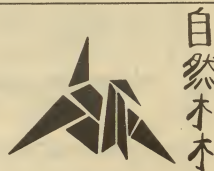
EDITOR'S NOTE: A year ago, a San Mateo doctor first publicized his research on vitamin C therapy for people with AIDS. In a series of articles which began March 8, 1984 in the Bay Area Reporter, Dr. Robert Cathcart explained the therapy and discussed its success for people with AIDS.

Subsequently, the Bay Area Reporter editorialized on the subject and published follow-up articles on people with AIDS undergoing the ascorbate strategy. The reporting earned not a few snickers and the criticism of some who called it all "quackery."

This past weekend, the Sunday Examiner—all half-million copies—reported on the ascorbate strategy. A new study indicates that initial hopes for the vitamin C therapy are being borne out.

We are pleased the therapy is winning wider attention now. And we believe that the developments of the past year have validated our efforts of a year ago to publicize ascorbate therapy.

Brian Jones



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THIS

FRIDAY 22

• **2 Queens in Search of a Motif:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. Tom Ammiano and Doug Holsclaw continue their search in a new series of skits.

• **Betsy Rose with Fran & Charlie:** music and comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Singer-Songwriter Betsy teams up with the Atomic Comics, Fran and Charlie, for some nuclear comedy.

• **Dealing with Stress:** lecture, Fraternal Order of Gays, 2038 22nd Ave., S.F., 8 PM. A workshop with short exercises designed to alleviate stress. Call 753-6786 for further information.

• **Gwen Avery:** music, Artemis Cafe, 23rd St. and Valencia, S.F., 8 PM.

• **Alexander Hamilton Veterans Association:** dance, Veterans Building, 401 Van Ness Ave., S.F., 7 PM, \$5. Join the Gay vets in celebrating George Washington's birthday with country rock band Conan and cabaret singer Jae Ross in the Green Room.

• **The Singular Life of Albert Nobbs:** stage performance, Vida Gallery, Women's Bldg., 3543 18th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6.50 and \$7.50. She discovered she could make more money if she dressed as a man and so became Albert Nobbs, a "perhapper." Tickets at 864-8432.

• **Chrissy Hicks and Doug Darrin:** cabaret, Buckley's, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5.

• **Love Kamp:** stage performance, Co-Lab Theatre, 1805 Divisadero, S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Two WWII GIs make their way from a prison camp to a present day disco in this tale of erotic suspense and combat humor. Box office: 346-4063.

• **Mourning Metro:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2826 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$9 & \$10. Philippe Roy directs C.D. Arnold's new play that takes a young man to the Paris of his dreams and beyond. Box office: 861-5079.

• **A Name You Never Got:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$6. Ronda Slater's autobiographical story held over once again. Reservations suggested, 863-3863.

• **Women's Drop-in Space:** conversation and caring, 1615 Polk St., upstairs, S.F., 7-9 PM, every Friday.

• **Russia:** stage performance, Theatre Artaud, 450 Florida St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8 and \$10. Antenna Theatre returns to the stage with this story of intolerance and self-righteousness.

• **Live! On Salvation Street:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros Studio, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. This Southern gothic portrait of three generations of women by Terry Cammon Garner opens the Studio's new season.

• **X-posed:** stage performance, People's Theatre Coalition, Fort Mason Bldg. B, S.F., 8 & 10:30 PM. Sex, sensitivity, female impersonation and songs such as "Clones in Love." For ticket information, call 776-8999.

• **Acupuncture Free Clinic:** for persons with AIDS and their Gay families, The Parsonage, 555A Castro St., S.F., by appointment. Call Mark Denzin, C.A., or Peter Betcher at 567-2315 for information.

• **Femprov:** comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 to 8 PM, free.

SATURDAY 23

• **Brunch to Benefit Hospice of San Francisco:** Bradley's Corner, Cole & Carl Sts., S.F., 10 AM to 3 PM, \$7. All proceeds go to providing home care for people with AIDS.

• **Different Spokes:** Nicassio Valley Loop, bicycle ride, meet in Woodacre on Sir Francis Drake Blvd. and Nicassio Road at 11 AM; few low hills, moderate pace with occasional stops, 35 miles. For information, call 550-8121. Also, decide and ride, 1 PM, meet at Fell and Stanyan, Golden Gate Park.

• **The AIDS Show:** stage performance, Campus Christian Center, 300 South 10th St., San Jose, 2 & 8 PM, \$10. The Arts Council of Gay and Lesbian San Jose brings the Theatre Rhinoceros production to the South Bay. Call (408) 737-0214 for tickets.

• **15th Anniversary of Metropolitan Community Churches:** service, Grace Cathedral, Nob Hill, 4 PM; dinner and dance, Golden Gateway Holiday Inn, California and Van Ness Aves., S.F., \$22. Rev. Troy Perry will speak on this commemoration honoring all eight MCCs in the Bay Area.

• **Chinese New Year Banquet:** Association of Lesbian and Gay Asians, Yank Sing Restaurant, 5 PM, \$22.50 and \$25. Virginia Apuzzo, director of the National Gay Task Force, will speak. For information, call 861-1495.

• **Black and White Men Together:** party, 8 PM, call 863-0925.

• **Tom Ammiano:** comedy, Jeremiah's Steak House, 5875 Sonoma Highway, Santa Rosa, 8 & 10 PM, \$5. Will it play in Santa Rosa?



The K'thar Sissies will perform

• **Passing: Identities Hidden and Exposed:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5 to \$8, sliding scale. Mother tongue presents its moving study of women forced to conceal their sexual identities.

• **Monica Palacios and Marga Gomez:** comedy, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6-8 PM, no cover.

• **The Singular Life of Albert Nobbs:** stage performance (see Friday for details).

• **Writing Workshop:** for women 60 and older, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 12 noon. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders, call 626-7000 for more information.

• **Love Kamp:** stage performance (see Friday for details).

• **A Name You Never Got:** stage performance (see Friday for details).

• **Mourning Metro:** stage performance (see Friday for details).

• **Russia:** stage performance (see Friday for details).

SUNDAY 24

• **San Francisco FrontRunners:** LaFayette Park to Presidio Gate, 1 to 5 hilly miles; meet at 10 AM at the corner of Octavia and Washington Sts., S.F.

• **Different Spokes:** Napa to Sonoma bicycle ride, meet at Redwood Plaza parking lot, Redwood and Solano Ave., in Napa. Call 339-2345 for time. Also decide and ride, 10 AM, Golden Gate Park (Fell and Stanyan Sts.).



Ann Houle (r.) and Ann Darragh in The Singular Life of Albert Nobbs, at the Vida Gallery through March 2

WEEK



will perform Intensive Care Unit Sunday.

- **Black and White Men Together:** potluck brunch for couples only, call 563-2443 for information.
- **Intensive Care Treatment:** stage performance, Co Lab Theatre, 1805 Divisadero St., S.F., 2 PM, \$5. The K'thar Sissies present a comic curative to the AIDS crisis; benefit for the AIDS Fund.
- **Gay Atheist League of America:** meeting, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 2 PM. Reading and discussion of the works of Robert Ingersoll, 19th century freethinker.
- **5th Anniversary of The 15:** 4-8 PM, 10 Rodgers Street, S.F.
- **Gwen Avery:** music, Ollies, 40th and Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 5-8 PM, no cover.
- **The Linda Tillery Band:** jazz, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5-8 PM.
- **The Vocal Minority in Kidstuff:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 7 PM, \$7. A revue of songs about children and childhood.
- **Pamela Erickson:** cabaret, Buckley's, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM.
- **Affirmation:** meeting, Gay and Lesbian Mormons will meet in San Francisco at 7 PM; call 641-0791 for details.
- **Love Kamp:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Mourning Metro:** stage performance, 3 PM and 8:30 PM, \$7 to \$9 (see Friday for details).
- **Russia:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **X-posed:** stage performance, 8 PM (see Friday for details).
- **Live'n' on Salvation Street:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **All Join Hands:** square dancing, 2140 Market, S.F., 5 to 7 PM. Dance with the Bay City Ramblers. Call 474-1917 for more information.
- **Drop-in VD Clinic:** sponsored by the Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 7 to 9 PM. Free and confidential. Testing and treatment for gonorrhea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, etc., also counseling and referrals. Call 644-0425 for more information.

MONDAY 25

- **Bad Girl Rap Group:** support group for women at risk of AIDS, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 7 PM. For anyone who has been seen as a "bad girl" because of sex, race, class, or sexual activity. For information, call 552-1849.
- **To Honor Work for Lesbian and Gay Youth:** reception, 2268 Market St., S.F., 5:30 to 8 PM, \$10 donation. Greg Day hosts this reception for the directors of Coleman Children and Youth Advocates.
- **Wild West Cloggers:** class, Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St., near 16th St., S.F., 7 to 8:30 PM. A ten week class for men and women. Call 829-0846 or 586-8376.
- **Line Six:** script reading, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$3. The festival of finalists in the First National Lesbian Playwriting contest continues with this play by Melanie Fife.
- **Mary Watkins, Sapphron Obols & Joy Julks:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM.
- **Elman, Goulder & Eisenberg:** cabaret, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9-11 PM.

• **Gay Comedy Open Mike:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$3. Performer sign-up, 7:30 PM.

TUESDAY 26

- **Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club:** meeting, The Women's Bldg., 3543 18th St., S.F., 7:30 PM.
- **T'aint Nobody's Bizness:** Eric Garber reveals Gay life in Harlem in the 1920s.
- **Bingo:** Pride Center, 890 Hayes St., S.F., \$6, 7:15 PM. Cash prizes.
- **Playwriting Workshop:** winter session, 7:30 PM. Conducted by George Birmisa. Call 431-6254 for more information.
- **Beginning Square Dancing:** dance, 2140 Market, S.F., 8:15 PM. Learn with the Bay City Ramblers. Call 474-1917 for more information.
- **Lady Bianca:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- **Artists Involved with Death and Survival:** stage performance, The Studio, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. A collaborative effort of 13 Bay Area Gay and Lesbian artists that delivers new insights into the deepening AIDS crisis.
- **Yoga and Meditation Class:** for people with AIDS and their lovers, 10 AM to noon. Call 921-4471 for more information.
- **International Folk Dancing:** dance class, Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, \$2. No preregistration necessary. Call 552-8413 for more information.

WEDNESDAY 27

- **Phooey on AIDS Benefit:** music, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers, at Caselli, S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Randy Weiss and Patricia Whaley perform works by Bach, Mozart and Bartok.
- **Elements of Style and Slantstep:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM.
- **Informed Consent:** film, St. Priapus Church, 583 Grove St., S.F., 7 PM, free. A documentary on the evils of foreskin amputation by the Anti-Circumcision League.
- **Mourning Metro:** stage performance, 8:30 PM, \$8 and \$9 (see Friday for details).
- **The God of Ecstasy:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$7 (\$5 unemployed). For reservations, call 863-3863.
- **Audrey Finer:** Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7-9 PM.
- **San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus:** rehearsal, Kassman Piano, 425 Hayes St., S.F., 7:30 PM. For information call 566-6496.
- **Artists Involved with Death and Survival:** stage performance (see Tuesday listing for details).

THURSDAY 28

- **The Singular Life of Alfred Nobbs:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **Vickie Randle Band and Woody Simmon's Band:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM.
- **Writing Workshop:** for men 60 and older, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7 PM. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call 431-6254 for details.
- **The God of Ecstasy:** stage performance (see Wednesday for details).
- **Mourning Metro:** stage performance, 8:30 PM, \$8 and \$9 (see Friday for details).
- **Debbie Saunders:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F.
- **Russia:** stage performance (see Friday for details).
- **X-posed:** stage performance, 8 PM (see Friday for details).
- **All-Male Strip Show:** Renegade, 1548 Polk St., S.F., 10 PM, no cover.
- **Beginners Square Dance:** free introductory classes, YMCA, 220 Golden Gate, S.F., 7:15 PM. Call the Western Star Dancers at 864-6134 for more information.
- **Yoga and Meditation Class:** for people with AIDS and their lovers, 7 to 9 PM. Call 921-4471 for more information.
- **Couples Group II:** ongoing drop-in support group for persons with AIDS and their lovers, Pride Center, 890 Hayes St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM. Call 821-8830 or 558-9644 for more information.

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays. This Week compiled by Ray O'Loughlin.

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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

STAGE

So Dish is New York

Manhattan Celebs Talk About What Everyone Else Does

by Steve Warren

George Hearn cheats on Van Johnson, Lillian Gish turns young, Mark Hamill suffers sexual confusion, Michael Bennett directs Swoosie Kurtz in an orgy, and AIDS spreads to the New York stage. It's all part of the buzz picked up by keeping an ear to the stars during a weekend meeting of the American Theatre Critics Association.

The best source of information is a Saturday brunch at Sardi's, an annual opportunity for performers to chat informally with the press.

Among the first to arrive is George Hearn, Albin of *La Cage aux Folles*, who is still honeymooning with his new co-star, "my fourth husband," Van Johnson. "Van's the cutest of my husbands . . . he's gonna be terrific," Hearn announces to all who will listen, while confiding privately, "He's still a little rocky in some of the songs."

Trained as an opera singer, Hearn is set for three roles with New York City Opera after he leaves *La Cage* in August: *Casanova's Homecoming* by Dominic Argento; *Wright and Forrest's Kismet*, and "a Mozart." He took Beverly Sills up on her offer, he says, to show those critics who have said he can't be a serious singer if he does eight shows a week on Broadway. With an open schedule next year and beyond, he would welcome a chance to sing with the San Francisco Opera. Is Terry McEwen reading this?

Hearn doesn't appear at Sardi's with Van Johnson on his arm, but Leslie Simons, whom he introduces as his fiancée. They say they plan to marry in June. Simons describes herself as "a swing and an understudy" in *La Cage*, a swing being a replacement dancer. Because there are so many injuries in the show, Simons says, she gets to go on a lot, in both male and female parts. "Some of the guys are having lower back problems," Hearn elaborates. "I think it's the heels . . . It hasn't bothered me. I don't do as much dancing and I don't have any muscle tone to ruin." Hearn and Simons are spotted the next afternoon in the audience at Sunday in the Park with George.

Mark Hamill is announced as a no-show but shows anyway. He explains that his two sons,

aged five and almost two, put up a fuss when their mother left to see a show in New Haven, and he didn't think he'd get them quieted down in time.

Aside from his domestic problems, Hamill is in the first week of previews for a new musical, *Harrigan 'n Hart*, about a pair of 19th century vaudevillians. Hamill-as-Hart does several drag numbers in the show. His sexuality isn't clearly defined at this point, but the script is changing with every performance.

Jim Dale, appearing in *Joe Egg*, says he's glad for the chance to show Americans, who know him mainly from *Barney*, the kind of serious acting he does routinely in England. Of the remarkable chemistry bet-

spent a month in San Francisco last fall shooting a CBS-TV movie, *Guilty Conscience*, a labyrinthine thriller of the *Sluth/Deathtrap* genre with Blythe Danner and Anthony Hopkins. Her principal project since last May has been a series of workshops for a new Michael Bennett musical, *Scandal*, with a score by Jimmy Webb, which should open either on or off-Broadway this spring.

"It's about sex," Kurtz explains. "It's just me and all these guys! . . . It's a tough job, but somebody has to do it." What amazed and gratified her most was that Bennett, the creator of *Dreamgirls* and *A Chorus Line*, told her he had her in mind from the beginning, even though she'd never done a musical before.

'This year Mason's own company is preparing a play that deals specifically with AIDS.'

when he and his co-star Stockard Channing, Dale says, "When you give and give you've just got to get something back, from someone who's that good." The actor says the best advice he ever got came from his father, a steel foundry worker, who told him, "Learn how to move."

Swoosie Kurtz, a Tony winner for *Fifth of July*, says she

Jerry Stiller jokes about a similar honor. When Mike Nichols offered him his current role in *Hurlyburly* he told him, "You are the part." The star of stage, screen, and *Blue Nun* commercial adds, "I was flattered — until I read the script." His character, a writer, is a real scumbag. Perhaps rebutting some of the assembled critics,



Marshall W. Mason (Photo: S. Warren)

Stiller explains, "(David Rabe) didn't write a (Arthur) Miller play where you understand everything at the end . . . or a (David) Mamet play with a twist at the end . . . He has given us his idea of what his life is all about and what the world is all about."

The hit of the brunch is the actress who is probably the least-known outside of New York, Anita Gillette. Currently playing her "first 'old' part" in *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, the vivacious gamine speaks frankly about the problems of finding work when you look like you're in your 20s but have been around so long everyone knows you're in your 40s. "I'm still 'cute,' I'm not Maureen Stapleton yet, or Colleen Dewhurst."

Gillette tells of having been in Hollywood recently, where the accent on youth is obsessive. She went to get glasses, she says, because she "was having trouble reading the phone book." The guy who examined me took hold of some skin on my eyelid and said, "You might want to do something about this." I said, "Why? Is it interfering with my vision?" This is a guy who sells you glasses! That's how they are out there."

The Sardi's brunch is the social highpoint of a weekend that begins Friday morning at Circle Repertory Theatre with a reunion with that theater's founder and artistic director, Marshall W. Mason. Last year he was in San Francisco to direct the late Jane Chambers' *Last Summer at Bluefish Cove* because he felt the play about a dying lesbian and the support she receives from her friends had a message about "the family the Gay community really needs to become in a difficult situation with the advent of AIDS."

This year Mason's own company is preparing a play that deals specifically with AIDS, William M. Hoffman's *As Is*, for a March 10 opening (previews begin March 3). He's

been in an unofficial race against Joe Papp's Public Theater which starts previewing its own "AIDS play," *The Normal Heart* by Larry Kramer, on March 29 for an April opening.

Mason says he was worried when the Kramer play was scheduled to open first, but it was postponed. "Now I say, 'Shit, I wish they'd gone first,' because our play is better." Public Theater publicist Richard Kornberg says it was Kramer who "turned it into a contest . . . We didn't give a shit when the hell we were doing this play. Joe Papp's producing it because he thinks it's a good play."

Advance word indicates *As Is* is more concerned with relationships while *The Normal Heart* is more political. Mason adds that *As Is* "has a lot of humor, which is helpful when an audience is going to go through what they go through for an hour and a half."

Kornberg isn't worried about there being too many "AIDS plays." The point of *The Normal Heart*, he says, "is that the horror of AIDS can never be covered enough . . . If the press — not just the Gay press — had given it more coverage, we might not have had the epidemic we have now."

Mason has happy memories of his *Bluefish Cove* production and the time he spent in San Francisco, except that the producer didn't pay him all the royalties he was entitled to. Contacted in Los Angeles, the producer, Judy Miller, calls it "kind of an in-house problem . . . a family affair that a lot of people are involved with . . . The solution is in process. All of those problems are being resolved."

"I think the world of Marshall," she adds. "He did a wonderful job for us, and our association is continuing."

One of the weekend's panels features playwrights Lanford

(Continued on page 27)



Lillian Gish (l.) with Nedda Harrigan Logan. (Photo: S. Warren)



EVEN IN BABYLON

Men Dispel Cabaret Doldrums

JOHN F. KARR

It's been the dog days for cabaret in San Francisco for some time. Hindsight says such doldrums could have been expected. A rising group of stars—McNight, Hastings, Hutchison, Reign, Rankine, Brooks, and Ross—established careers and got out of town in order to sustain those careers. They were replaced by a bunch of aspiring clones who realized only too late that the bottom line of cabaret work was a strong identity. The clones died out; the usual bunch of self-indulgent dreamers (those "I'd like to be a star" dilettantes who are just as amateurish after a year of work as at the start) died out; indeed, most of the cabarets they hoped to play died out.

Well, if the legit theater can be dubbed *The Fabulous Invalid*, then cabaret is certainly *The Incredible Malingeringer*. For as soon as we heard the shout, "Cabaret is dead!" we had to shout back, "Long live Cabaret!" A new generation, with its own identity, has arrived, presenting us with several arresting talents. This renaissance itself is not too unexpected, but a most surprising element of it is that, instead of the customary female stars, the best of the new headliners are men.

The top names in this new group, Reginald McDonald and Joseph Taro, couldn't be more markedly different. The latter is all Broadway, the former all boudoir.

That's not to say Reginald McDonald is only soft lights and sweet music. There's a good deal of excitement to his stylings, but it's more the sizzling heat of sensuality than the conjuring of a chorus line, which is Taro's specialty.

McDonald's progress since his debut a year and a half ago has been amazing. Although he truly does have, as Phil Elwood wrote, "a voice of pure gold," he also had the problems of a beginner. A difficult environment or a case of nerves could throw his pitch so slightly yet painfully off key for an evening. His breathing and phrasing was unmusical at best, and between songs he was lost.

Experience and hard work seem to have banished these blues, and McDonald's recent appearances suggest his act is about ready for the big time. I don't know how long our local cabaret circuit can contain him. McDonald is obviously legit. Working with the Joshua Rich Band at the 1177 Club last weekend (to be repeated Feb. 23), he had the audience un-

dulating with his scorching performances of devilishly well-picked tunes, plus some snappy between-song repartee.

Matter of fact, McDonald's song list is the best I've heard since some fondly remembered performances of The Hal and David Show, or the concerts of Scott Rankine. Which is not to say McDonald's tunes are so chic and sophisticated they'll sail over your head. Most of his repertory are known tunes. It's just that he's picked them with a twinkle and spruced them up—the choices are fresh and the performances smart.

McDonald's "Zing Went the Strings of My Heart" is a zinger alright, with a clever arrangement packed with surprising twists. He sails through "Lover Come Back to Me" with only drums for accompaniment, and turns the frequently sordid "I'm All Smiles" into a sprightly jazz waltz, connecting the short phrases into the single long arches they demand to be but rarely are. "I'm Gonna Sit Right Down and Write Myself A Letter" gets a hot workout, and Elvis Presley's "Don't" is a seductive plaint. "Love," once Lena Horne's tune, arrives in a sneaky arrangement that creeps up and slowly begins to steam. Its ending is a chiller. The line reads "love is almost never ever the same," but McDonald drops the last two words. It's a *coup de grace*, a plunge in the snow after a sultry sauna.

And then there's "Taking a Chance on Love." What a payoff to a swell evening. It's a ride past the second star on the right and straight on 'til morning. McDonald gives it that sweetly honeyed flow of sound that is his continuation of the Nat Cole/Johnny Mathis tradition, and his sly personality unfolds the gamble of love to a triumphant joy. With Joshua Rich on piano bringing just the right touch of backbeat to McDonald's dream of love, I could have taken a chance all night.

If McDonald's specialty is the simmer and heat of love, Joseph Taro is San Francisco's own Broadway Baby. After many years of legit work in New York, Taro's style is hardly that of a local boy aimed at the Big Apple. More than anybody else in town he is Broadway. What Jim Dale was to Barnum, Joseph Taro is to Buckley's, where he'll share a bill with sassy Molly Breen on Feb. 28 and present his own variety show with guest stars on Feb. 20.

enjoy the efforts of designers and technical crew. Somehow set designer Ferdinand Penker manages great detail without clutter. Simple touches are employed to add texture and depth. The result is a wonderful environment, the perfect playground for the talented cast.

And talented they are. These characters could easily have been portrayed as caricatures. Director Simon Levy wisely avoids this pitfall, allowing the characters to speak for themselves. I was particularly taken with the performances of Kenia Hunt as Emma, Jack Shear as Jung, and Gerald Winer as



Karr says Mikio (L.) and Joseph Taro make a great pair.

Taro also goes to town on material that isn't Broadway, particularly soul music, like Snokey Robinson's "Ooh, Baby, Baby" and particularly a juicy version of "Rockin' Robin" that starts as a lullaby and ends as full tilt boogie, although Bob Bauer's four-square accompaniment is an impediment. Taro's wacky sense of humor brings forth Kazoos, maracas, and a pencil-thin mustache for Allan Sherman's "Mexican Hat Dance," and he adds contemporary ballads to keep us sane. He has the savvy to sing quietly where others would boom ("Swanee"), and as a result we are allowed to realize we like him rather than be instructed, "like me."

Last week he shared an evening at Buckley's with Mikio, a recently arrived performer with a long list of experience, a bright personality, and a robust voice. He's one of the few local performers who can conquer Sondheim's imposing "Everybody Says Don't." Then he switches gears, and at soft volume and with musical grace made a new creation of Hoagy Carmichael's "The Nearness of You." His ornaments, creatively applied, were more allied to soul and gospel than jazz, quite a surprise from a Japanese singer. Well, soul has no boundaries. Mikio has the feeling, and the feeling is good. He also presented dynamic renditions of Brel's "Carousel" and Sondheim's "Losing My Mind."

In duet, Mikio and Taro tore up on "The Joint is Jumpin'"—and there's a certain charm in hearing Mikio interject "Yeah, man, I hear you," in his crisp accent. "Officer Krupke"

is an unusual choice, but was performed by the duo as if they were onstage at the Wintergarden Theatre. And their version of "All That Jazz" (in Japanese drag!) wiped out memory of Chita Rivera.

So there's some new names to reckon with, and I've yet to report on Robert Erickson, the charming and masculine fourth in this quartet of male performers who are putting local cabaret back on its feet. ■

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The Couch
Magic Theater
through March 17, 441-8822

STAGE

Laughter as Therapy

by Adele Prandini

Laughter is not only good medicine, but in the case of Lynne Kaufman's new play, *The Couch*, it is also great therapy. The current production at the Magic Theater is a theatrical delight. *The Couch* is a play which explores human relationships, and the relationship between Freud and Jung is the perfect starting point for this emotional adventure. Add to this Jung's sexual hunger for his client Toni Wolff conflicting with the secure stable love of his wife Emma, and you have a timeless plot.

I was glad to arrive early to

Freud. These three are marvelous together, taking full advantage of each moment and word. Molly Stadium seems too old for her role as Jung's daughter Katherine, but despite this her performance remains believable. I had some problems with Francis Di Mase as Toni. But I admit this could be a matter of personal taste. I just couldn't see what Jung would see in this woman.

The Couch is a fascinating play, a fun experience, and well worth the trip out to the Magic. I'm happy to see the Magic Theater producing feminist work. Let's hope it's a new trend.

STAGE

No Love, No Kamp

by Bernard Spunberg

Hard work guarantees nothing. *Shaking Hands with Moths* and *Love Kamp*, two one-acts written and directed by Michael Andreen, are decently prepared and performed, but manage to evoke nothing more than an occasional chuckle and general confusion.

Produced by Archon Theater at the Co-Lab Theater, *Shaking Hands* is the smaller and more successful of the two works. Here is a courtroom drama in which the defendant is deprived of accusation as well as defense. He's eventually convicted of treason, but not before the prosecutor points out that "the guilty are held up in the scales of justice by the certainty that they can fall no further." A good line. But because writer-director Andreen, who also plays one of the two prosecutors, places his courtroom in a country with no pretensions to justice, the drama goes nowhere. Though the jury has some funny moments, the judge and second prosecutor

speak with accents too immature to carry the weight of authority.

Love Kamp takes place in a Nazi POW camp and a modern German disco. Simultaneously. Maybe this succession of short scenes is supposed to underline similarities between war and peace. Maybe it's meant to dramatize the dehumanizing effect of war, or its power over succeeding generations, or American influence on post-War Europe, or the fragile, illusory nature of masculinity. There's probably a good play buried in all this. As it stands, however, *Love Kamp* is too long and too diffuse to make a clear impression. The actors deserve credit for their preparation and apparent confidence in writer-director Andreen. If only preparation and confidence were enough. ■

Shaking Hands, Love Kamp
Co-Lab Theater
through Feb. 24; 316-1063



Margaret Paulson and Kim Starr in *Love Kamp*

A New World Before Us

by John F. Karr

The Berkeley Repertory Theatre's production of *Kingdom Come* by Anilin Gray is an overwhelming experience. The play jumps directly into the action, which may leave some spectators with a momentary feeling of having to catch up. You soon find yourself swept relentlessly along with its oceanic story. In Act One this concerns the general plight of impoverished Norwegians before it hones in on the specific stories (and hair raising ones at that) of two families in particular.

Sometimes awkward in its dramaturgy (isn't any play that uses a narrator?), *Kingdom Come* triumphs with its sparsely written, believably truthful depictions of its character's lives. Family sagas tend to be engrossing, and when those sagas in-

clude the uprooting of ancestral homes, immigration to unknown destinations, poverty, famine, plague, unattended childbirth, and madness, as well as full counts of joyous and fulfilling moments, as this play does, the result is an evening of epic magnitude and emotional tempest. I was exhausted and exhilarated by this show.

Most exhilarating is the production itself. Played on a bare platform of planks roughly hewn as those that formed the ships which bore our forefathers (designed by Laura Maurer), dressed in thickly textured cloth that is surely handspun and woven (costumes by Colleen Muschal), and lit with the brilliance of ice, ocean, and wind-swept plain by Dan Kotlowitz, *Kingdom Come* benefits most from the direction of Sharon Ott,

who has allowed generic figures to become such real flesh and blood we cry out in pain and laugh in joy with them. This is also no small tribute to the acting ensemble, featuring some favorites in their best work — particularly Tony Amendola, David Booth, the heartbreaking Judith Marx, and Michelle

crossing America depicted by the clacking of bamboo poles, and most amazing, a plague of locusts descending upon us, filling our mouths and ears and nostrils—the locusts played by the whoosh of twirling ropes and their slap against the stage. Amazing fright, and what an effect!

'I was exhausted and exhilarated by this show.'

Morain in an unusual departure; their vision is indelible, what they enable us to see is remarkable.

But Ott's direction is foremost. Using time-honored theatrical devices with startling freshness, she conjures a world far more real than the cinema has offered in similar spectacles. A man freezing in a snowstorm of stretched sheets, the trains

But beyond the story and the acting and the inventive production, though, are the ideas which propelled these pioneers to our country, and which can still cause such pain. They came (in this case) seeking an end to poverty (their soil "hardly had the strength to lie there" and they ate bark bread) and freedom from their Church's tyranny. And we can weep today, see-

ing what their dreams have come to. As Julian Beck wrote in *The Life of the Theatre*, "I am a slave who came out of Egypt . . . out of the house of bondage into the house of employment. What an illusion, three thousand five hundred years ago, when we moved out of one culture into another, thinking we were going to be our own masters from then on! We got rid of a political master, and were too inexperienced to recognize the true function of the Paymaster, the Chief of Police, the Pillars of Society."

Kingdom Come is not only an incredibly rich saga of heroism, but a tragic reminder of the continuing reign of an outmoded religion and government. What lands will we turn to next? Outer space? When will our quest turn to the most difficult journey, inward? ■

Kingdom Come
Berkeley Rep.
Through March 3; 841-6108.



Are You Sure This Is What He Meant by "Butch It Up"? — A Nerd and Nerdette (Bob Kastanek and Susan Parks) will do anything to find love in *Beach Blanket Babylon's Makin' Whoopee!*, including trying new hairstyles and sipping a potion furnished by Madame T. Ruth, or Ms. T (for Tina).

Whoopee!

by Steve Warren

If Cyril Magnin's not tired of *Beach Blanket Babylon* after 401 viewings, who am I to say the script can use an overhaul?

Besides, where else could you see Alexis Carrington tap dancing with a chorus line made up of a groom, a nerd, a baby, a wad of money, and a bottle of Blue Nun?

Where else do you hear at least parts of 60 songs in less than 90 minutes presented at steamroller pace by ten top talents?

So what if the plot is becoming so familiar you can sing along with the dialogue, the wigs are becoming monotonous, and the jokes predictable? There's still the odd surprise, such as Alexis' musical response to being called a bitch, and a triple-decker Tina Turner wig the Humane Society could find a good home for.

One unpleasant surprise in a show with such a strong Gay following is a scene in which a flamboyant hairdresser ("Go Away, Little Girl") becomes straight after being vamped by Betty Boop who turns into Cyndi Lauper.

The bitchfight between Val Diamond (Alexis) and Jacquie Marshall (Tina) may be the real thing. Jacquie gives Val some tough vocal competition in "Proud Mary," "Respect," and "What's Love Got To Do With It?," but Val stays on top with "Out Here on My Own," "You're Just in Love," and the show-stopping medley with Doc Collins of "You're My Soul and Inspiration" and "You've Lost That Lovin' Feelin'." Collins, who plays Tom Jones, seems to be kidding until he sustains that voice through a dozen songs and we realize we'd better take him seriously.

With Snow White gone, nerd Bob Kastanek and Nerdette Susan Parks have become central characters, looking for love with the help of virtually every personality you've thought about in the last 12 months.

Ghostbusters is one cultural phenomenon curiously missing from *Beach Blanket Babylon's Makin' Whoopee!* Therefore, who you gonna call? ■

Beach Blanket Babylon's Makin' Whoopee
Club Fugazi, 421-4484

People v. Dan White

The People Versus Dan White, a 90-minute docu-drama produced by KQED/San Francisco and telecast nationally on PBS, garnered a 1984 IRIS Award from The National Association of Television Program Executives (NATPE). The coveted award was presented to the program's Executive Producer Ken Ellis at NATPE's annual convention and awards ceremony, held this year in San Francisco.

According to NATPE President John von Soosten, IRIS is "synonymous with excellence in local programming. Created to recognize achievement by local television stations, the IRIS Award is a symbol of the best work of the men and women who are responsible for fine locally created programming in markets across the country."

The docu-drama features a unique format: dramatic re-enactments of the events leading up to the crime, the shootings, the confession, and the trial were taped on location and combined in the editing room with cinema verite observations by many of the key politicians, legal experts, and journalists who were involved in the real-life drama. ■

Honey, Your Purse Is On Fire

Last fall, the crowd gathered at the Central Opera Service conference in Chicago included several of the opera world's major power brokers, the standard gaggle of guild ladies, and a couple of hot-headed rebels from the younger generation of operatic professionals. Midway through the program, a deliciously ironic moment took place which demonstrated how societal class structures have crumbled before the onslaught of today's mass audience. A good friend of mine (who has headed up several regional opera companies in the past) turned to me and rather loudly remarked, "Holy shit. If I'm gonna keep prostituting myself as a fundraiser, I might as well get laid for my efforts."

Eyebrows arched throughout the room. And yet, despite a grand harrumph of noblesse oblige, several members of the old guard—mostly decrepit dowagers who desperately wish opera could retain its former image as an elitist art form—were forced to keep their silence in the presence of my sassy young whippersnappers who refuse to tolerate their tired old bullshit.

CULTIVATING THE MASSES

Motel 6 used to advertise its facilities by insisting that "In the dark, every motel room looks the same." Gone are the days when air travelers got all gussied up to fly across the United States. Likewise, many opera-goers are now going to performances in casual clothes. Anyone attending the San Francisco Opera has grown used to seeing Gay men in full leather, and many others who are dressing for comfort, rather than style.

Although I've occasionally been taken to task for dressing in what some people feel is "inappropriate to the grandeur of grand opera," the blunt truth is that a sports jacket puts me to sleep, a necktie chokes me, and I'm a lot more comfortable in jeans. Recently, when a rather pompous matriarch admonished me for attending a performance in my standard attire, I didn't hesitate to remind the woman that a tight girdle had never helped her to hear any better.

Several years ago, Glynn Ross made a point of appearing onstage before each performance of the Pacific Northwest Wagner Festival to lecture his audiences on proper behavior during the *Ring Cycle*. While some were appalled that Ross

saw fit to do so, others heartily applauded his efforts. And with good reason. There are some snobs who will argue that today's newfound wealth has allowed the wrong element to buy its way into situations which were previously unaffordable. Sorry, girls, but the truth lies elsewhere. If opera audiences in America have grown by leaps and bounds during the past decade, it is due to one factor and one factor alone: television.

Yes, Virginia, the tube is the great equalizer, and it has brought opera into the homes of millions of American families camped out at every level of the socioeconomic ladder. What is genuinely alarming, however, is that the TV addicts who comprise our new audience don't have the slightest notion of how to behave in a legitimate theater. Some are more than a little miffed that they can't smoke a cigarette (or a joint) during the performance. Others can't understand why they are not allowed to carry their drinks back into the auditorium.

While I may not be famous for attending the opera in tie and tails, I do my best to stay alert and give the artists onstage my complete attention. I'm also proud to say that—at the very least—I know enough to keep my mouth shut during the performance, and adjust my digital watch to a dull roar.

REPEAT OFFENDERS

Are yuppies invading America's opera houses? Are the arts being overrun by the "me generation"? Is the neighborhood going to ruin? No, my friends, the side effects of television are infinitely more insidious. And, like my good friend Ko-Ko, I've got a little list of people attending the opera who *never* would be missed.

First, there are the loudmouths who talk to each other all through a performance as if they were sitting at home in front of their TV sets. Indeed, on one occasion, when I politely asked someone to be still, I was told that I could fucking well keep my own mouth shut or this man would call an usher and have me evicted from the theater!

Then there are those who bring their flash cameras into the auditorium so they can return home with a personal souvenir of what they just saw onstage. This upscale hooligan is best exemplified by the fashionably dressed woman who

recently leaned forward in her seat, pushed the button on her noisy home movie camera, and began to record her daughter's performance in *The Nutcracker* for posterity.

Let's not forget the old biddy who, as she sat next to me in Carnegie Hall one night, proceeded to tear open her mail during Beethoven's Fifth. When I grabbed the electric bill out of her hands she almost went into cardiac arrest. And then there was the feisty old crone in St. Louis who, when I asked her to stop talking during the opera, bellowed "Just you keep your mouth shut, sonny, and keep looking straight ahead." To make sure I had heard her warning she then began to pound my chair with her cane, turned to her companion and, midway through a beautiful performance of a Mozart opera, roared, "Can you *imagine* the nerve of that man asking me to keep quiet?"

Several years ago my friend David nearly landed himself in a rumble at the Santa Fe Opera when, midway through Act I of *The Magic Flute*, he tried to shush two rowdy Texan couples whose liquid dinner, combined with the dizzying effects of the local altitude, had obviously gone to their heads. Furious at having traveled so far only to struggle to hear one of his favorite operas over their increasing din, David turned around and hissed, "Would you people please shut the fuck up?"

Loaded to the gills, by intermission the Texan men were primed for a fistfight. Alas, they



"These new audiences ain't got no class," moans Prince Orlofsky (Helga Dernesch).

were not the slightest bit sorry to learn that their rude chatter had distracted everyone in the audience around them. Instead, they were furious that my friend had used cuss words in front of their wives.

It isn't by accident that so many playbills and other theater publications now include articles about the proper etiquette to be observed while attending live performances. These renditions of "Miss Manners vs. Godzilla

and the Yuppies" are aimed at preventing gang wars in the theater. And whether we like it or not, some of our new audience members desperately need to learn some discipline.

What can one do under the circumstances? My friend Bill's technique is to stand up just before intermission, look down at the offender and snarl "I thought you'd look something like that!"

Try it. You'll like it. ■

FROM FIFTH POSITION

Les Ballets Trockadero, Circa 1985

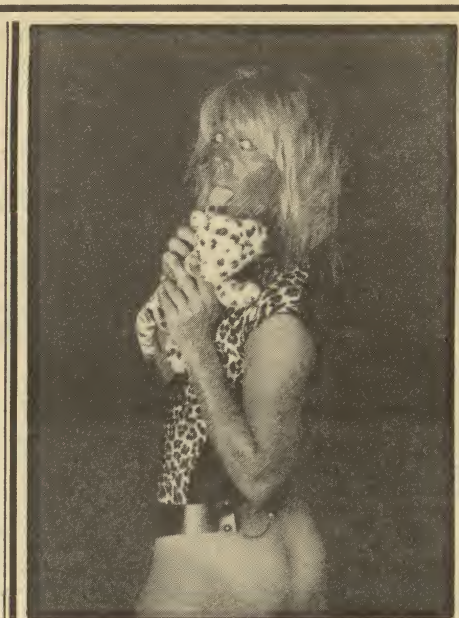
KEITH WHITE

The truth is, Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo is a very serious company. Though we buy tickets hoping to laugh (and laugh we do), to a large extent the humor at a Trockadero evening is pre-sold. Many of the same things we hoot at the Trocks for are accepted in rapt sobriety in a "conventional" company's performance. But we laugh our way into and out of the Opera House feeling this is the world's funniest ballet company. It is that and more.

Among America's major touring companies, the Trockadero is one in which progress is most

easily observable, and it isn't funny in the same way as when it began ten years ago. In the early underground days, the boys were half-trained or untrained balletomanes in tutus who made us laugh by capturing ballet's essence—while failing at ballet technique. Today they succeed at both. Most all the dancers at the Opera House Friday night were thin, musical, strong on *pointe*—and the new dancers they're hiring these days come equipped with beautiful feet and long, slender legs; they look good in their tutus. Also, they're versatile. The same dan-

(Continued on next page)



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The Gay Hotel of San Francisco

Too Gay or Not Gay Enough?

Tom Robinson has got The Word. Still. Too bad the congregation's dwindled to such a piddling few at this point. It's a sorry state of affairs when his new album, *Hope and Glory*, contains some of the finest music of his career, and no one wants to know. Not his record company, which isn't promoting it, not the radio stations, which aren't playing it, and judging from the lackluster response to his Jan. 31 performance at Wolfgang's, not the public either.

Robinson rose out of the ashes of the punk movement in '78 with an album called *Power in the Darkness*. Included were several strong political tunes, and two unapologetically Gay-songs, "Martin" and the sarcastic but optimistic "Glad To Be Gay." Tom was happening

at that point—hits on the radio, appearances at rallies, including a stint at 1981's Gay Freedom Day Parade—he had the whole shebang.

Then, something happened. He toned down the often didactic nature of his politics and reached an anomalous impasse. No longer the flavor of the month, his material became too un-Gay for his queer following, and still too much "that way" for the het set.

Retreating from public view, Robinson had a nervous breakdown, moved to East Germany, and began working on new material. Out of that period came two good but underrated lp's, *Sector 27* and *North by Northwest*. Regrouping and reassessing his priorities, he moved back to England and began work on a new album,

scoring a #1 hit with "War Baby," co-written with Peter Gabriel.

So what, you may be saying. Does he still have what it takes? Most emphatically yes. The new record is a beaut, full of the anger, honesty, and guts Tom's always displayed. The sound is more lush and a little more pop-oriented, but it doesn't detract from the overall feeling.

At his San Francisco show, the fans were there—all 20 of them—surrounded by the usual nightclub ghouls whose expressions ranged from bored to comatose. It's to Robinson's credit that despite such an underwhelming response he delivered an enthusiastic and thoroughly enjoyable set. During "Glad To Be Gay," he quipped, "you don't have to be Gay to sing along, but it sure helps!" Most of the jaded patrons seemed only slightly amused, as if paying homage to a dinosaur. I mean, darling, he's not on MTV, and that *hairdo*, for Christ's sake. Declasse.

But don't sell the guy short. He may have traded global politics for those of a more personal nature (a la "Blond and Blue"), but none of the power has been lost. It's increased. So okay, he's not writing such gender-specific songs as "Martin's Gone," but every once in a while a song like "Cabin Boy" slips through:

*Wanna go to Frisco Bay
Drink my liquor and spend my pay
Cabin boy works all night and day
Cabin boy goes all the way
Man the capstan, work the pump
Cook and carry, fetch and hump...*

You get the picture. Billy Budd never had it so good.

Robinson manages to celebrate the queer aspects of his show without resorting to camp techniques. His attitude is "It's there, deal with it. And then listen to my music."

So my suggestion, when those



Tom Robinson

endless streams of boring generic beat-box dance hits leave you musically hungry an hour later, is to pick up Tom Robinson's *Hope and Glory* lp. You're not going to hear it on the radio, and I doubt you'll see videos of it on MTV. The music is great, he has something to say, and is saying it more eloquently than ever. And he's a homosexual. He deserves our support. It's as simple as that.

★ ★ ★

Ok, cocktail jazz fans. Tired of Frank Sinatra? Johnny Mathis just doesn't do it for you anymore? Is your copy of Roxy Music's *Avalon* worn to a frazzle? (Don't get me wrong—I think Bryan Ferry is one of the suavest dudes on the planet, but let's face it. *Avalon* is '80s mood music.) Well, rejoice. No more spending exorbitant amounts of time and money searching the bargain bins for out-of-print Julie London albums. Sade has arrived, bringing with her the tasty new *Diamond Life* lp.

Sade (pronounced Shar-day) Adu is a young Nigerian singer who's taken England by storm with her brand of cooler-than-cool samba. It's jazz by default, only because I don't know what else to call it.

It's pleasant, sophisticated make-out music.

Habituees of the Stud or

listeners to KUSF will recognize "Smooth Operator" and "Hang On to Your Love." Deceptively smooth, these songs will pull you in on the sheer beauty of Sade's voice. Pure and effortless, they will seduce you regardless of persuasion. Women, take note: She's gorgeous. Men take note: so are the male members of her band. Her failure to really *emote* on several tunes keeps them from igniting, but that's a pretty minor cavil. It's a groovy record and I recommend it highly.

★ ★ ★

Are you ready for another laudatory review of a Smith's lp? The new one is tentatively titled *Meat is Murder*, and while I'll concede there are a few generic tracks and one truly abysmal one—the title track about vegetarianism—overall this record is a killer. When I first heard "How Soon is Now," the best independent 12" of 1984, I thought they'd be hard-pressed to better it. They have.

This record is a little harder-hitting musically, with the rhythm section stepping out and strutting its stuff in perfect counterpoint to Johnny Marr's stellar guitarwork. But Morrissey's poetry... oh dear. Either you like what he does, or you think he's an egocentric pompous ass, but nobody articulates desire the way he does.

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FIFTH POSITION

(Continued from previous page)

cer (Delilah Razzmatazzova) whose role as Hera in *To The Fairest* epitomized a certain gun-chewing femininity, appeared later as the very credible male partner (Yuri Smirnov) in the *Don Quixote Pas de Deux*. These technical strengths have given the Trocks their status as a legitimate ballet company. But presently it is also their discipline that makes us laugh. They try to be funny—which they now must do, because their dancing is too good to be laughable on its own.

The development of repertoire is the other area where progress is obvious, and this year's premieres reveal an astute artistic direction. *To The Fairest* (or *Coming of Age on Mount Ida*, a neoclassic ballet on a classic theme) was choreographed by co-artistic director Betteanne Terrell to a pastiche of music by Handel. Like most of the Trocks' original works, it recalls other famous ballets, in this case both *The Judgment of Paris* (which is its story) and *Balanchine's Apollo*, from which many of the choreographic images derive. The first scene presents the young Paris napping among his sheep (ewes, it would seem, in *pointe* shoes). The sheeps' costumes, fuzzy, cotton-y suits with sheep heads,

are funny by themselves, but the choreography—maidenly corps dances superimposed with animal arm movements—is masterfully comical.

The solos for Paris and each of the three goddesses which complete the ballet utilize a few sight gags, but they are mostly real dancing, funny only because the dancers interpret so broadly. Everyone has been carefully coached, but these solos are a golden opportunity for individual flair. As Aphrodite, new Trock Karina Grudj has the developed technique of the "new Trock" plus the old outrageous persona (very reminiscent of Eve Arden). But none of the contemporary Trocks are merely campy, and with each original premiere they bring to the Opera House, they seem to be working harder.

The other West Coast Premiere, *Three Dances of Ruth St. Dennis*, was reconstructed from Labanotation with costumes copied from those worn by Miss St. Dennis herself. Here the Trocks have dug up exactly the kind of legendary item that they, with their particular fondness for period fantasy, can revive better than anyone else: Miss Ruth's "Orientalia" trip from the early 1900s. One of these dances, the flamboyant Kashmiri Nautch, was presented several years ago in New York by a member of the

Joyce Trisler company, but it was a pale rendering compared to the performance given here by Olga Supphozova. Incense, a dance of rigid posturing taken from the border of a Grecian urn, was performed by Sonia Leftova with an almost spiritual concentration. Siamese, vividly danced by Yurika Sakitumi, was the most kinetically interesting, combining a mechanical accuracy with frenetic bent-legged runs, sardonic smiles, and deep bows from the waist. With these dances perhaps more than any of the others, we are laughing at the dances, not at the Trocks. In all likelihood, people laughed at Ruth St. Dennis.

The repertoire works on Friday night's program were tried and true: a *Dying Swan* danced by Doris Vidanya, in which the curtain calls took longer than the dance itself, and *Giselle Act II*, starring the delicate and hysterical Tamara Boundiyeva (a cross between Anna Pavlova and Anna Magnani). The pas de deux from *Don Quixote* deserves special mention because of the marvelous insolence and authenticity of Natalia Schmaltzova, with Yuri Smirnov her proud and stoic partner. They also danced more of the traditional choreography than I believe I have ever seen the Trocks attempt.

K. White

Blood Simple

Mirthful Murder

There are alot of people who are going to say *Blood Simple* is a sick, sick movie. I want you to count me among them. I also loved it. Produced on location in mid-Texas on a budget over \$1 million, this not-so-simple movie combined the film noir style of the late '40s and early '50s with the pathological macabre black humor of Hitchcock's *Psycho*.

Produced, written, and directed by brothers Joel and Ethan Coen, *Blood Simple* is so creatively directed and written even its occasional tastelessness becomes artful. The audience becomes accomplices in a grim murder. And as was shown in Hitchcock's *Torn Curtain*, it's not so easy to kill someone. It takes some doing, as unwillful hero John Getz finds out the hard way here.

A young woman runs out on her sleazy bar-owner husband. She has an impulsive affair with one of his bartenders (John Getz). When hubby (Dan Hedaya) discovers what has happened, he hires a cheap divorce detective (M. Emmet Walsh) to kill them both.

I won't divulge what happens after this set-up because it wouldn't be fair and because

there are too many twists and turns in the slithering, snakey plot.

Let it be said, in fair warning, that this is one of the first films in years that gets an audience viscerally disturbed. It has an atmosphere that so oozes with claustrophobia and smelly stagnation you get almost sick as you squirm and cringe in your seat. But what makes *Blood Simple* different from similar films is that it does it in a way to make the audience want to participate.

M. Emmett Walsh, as the slimy private dick, is the essence of menace. In his yellow polyester leisure suit, and with his craggy sniggering laugh, he is the perfect screen creep. Dan Hedaya as the oily husband has us sliding around in our seats with his too-real portrayal of monied sleaze. The other two major performers in relatively straight roles are John Getz as the bartender and Frances McDormand as the fleeing wife. Both are empathic and the people we are induced into identifying with, much to our regret.

There is a dark humor throughout this film, and you'll find yourself laughing when you think you shouldn't be. But *Blood Simple*, for all it's tawdriness, is no joke—it is simply bloody wonderful.

(Lumiere)

M. Lasky



A steamy scene from *Blood Simple*

Angel

Greek Tragedy

If you're one of those who avoided or deplored *L'Honneur* Blaise for being grim and negative, cross *Angel* off your must-see list. This Greek tragedy is another illustration of the grim side of Gay life.

It begins promisingly, from a cinematic standpoint, with the police busting a Gay cruising park. That's where *Angel* meets Mikhailis, a sailor who makes romantic as well as sexual overtures to him.

Angel's age is never specified, but Michael Maniatis looks at least ten years too old to play the part as written. Nor is he "angelic" enough for his loss of innocence to seem as tragic as it should.

Mikhailis is never shown near a ship, but when *Angel* is drafted they play their Army-Navy game in an apart-

ment *Angel* pays for. The sailor surprises his lover with a Frederick's of Athens wardrobe and introduces him to the world of transvestite prostitution. Even when he gets deeply into it *Angel* never looks more comfortable in drag than Jack Lemmon did in *Some Like It Hot*. To paraphrase the ads for Hollywood's *Angel*, he

Director George Katakouzinos has an excellent visual sense, but only in the film's first half does he show a flair for pacing. The plot is interrupted by a lovely but long and tangential scene involving *Angel*'s grandmother, played by the marvelous Maria Alkous. Besides being slower, the second half of *Angel* is rendered unap-

'It begins promisingly . . . with the police busting a Gay cruising park.'

becomes a "soldier by day . . . hooker by night," until his life is inevitably ruined and ends tragically.

There's an extra political message in a scene where *Angel*'s ex-lover departs for an unnamed destination where "you can be what you are," to escape the "hypocrisy and contempt" of Greece.

petizing by such scenes as the washing of a corpse.

Up until midpoint I was willing to overlook the negative mood and miscast lead and recommend *Angel*, at least for Gay audiences. I do so now with many more reservations.

(Lumiere)

S. Warren

Turk 182

Self Destructive Fun

If you can suspend all belief, and all disbelief while you are at it, *Turk 182* is the type of revenge film that is easy to take despite its lack of credibility with the real world.

When Brooklyn fireman Robert Urieh gets severely hurt in his attempts to save an infant trapped in a burning building, the City of New York refuses to give him assistance because he was inebriated. His indignant younger, out of work, brother, Timothy Hutton, gets the bureaucratic runaround after 200 letters.

Crooked mayor Robert Culp arrogantly insults Hutton and his brother when Hutton impetuously interrupts an impromptu news conference. For-

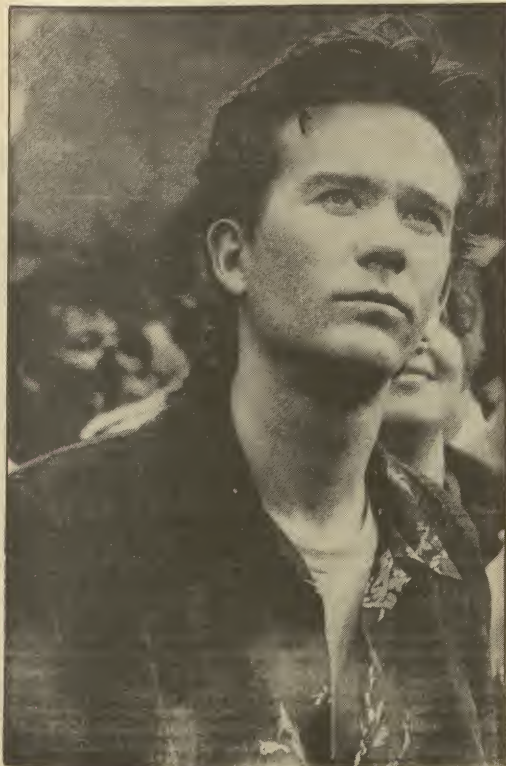
get that Hutton is unemployed and low on funds, as he singlehandedly pulls off expensive stunts that embarrass the campaigning-for-new-term mayor.

Using the moniker *Turk 182*, which was his brother's nickname and badge number (which no one identifies), he becomes a phantom hero to New Yorkers, and by the all too predictable and yes, quite unbelievable ending, gets the Mayor to say uncle.

Only the winning performances by Hutton and police detectives Peter Boyle and Darrin McGavin keep the insanity of this film acceptable at all. If you can buy the fantastic premise that Hutton could get away with the shenanigans he pulls, *Turk 182* is lots of yell-at-the-screen fun. If you can't say "only in the movies," then *Turk 182* is not your number.

(Alexandria)

M. Lasky



Timothy Hutton in *Turk 182*

Mischief

Smalltown Boy

Doug McKeon, the boy from *On Golden Pond*, is old enough to go beyond sucking face, but he seems to be in the wrong time and place for it—Nelsonville, Ohio in 1956. His buddy next door, Chris Nash, advises him to pad his crotch: "Girls don't have nuts so they're fascinated by them." Chris says progressive things like "... couldn't deal with it" and "No problem," but that's okay—he's from Chicago.

McKeon is hot for Kelly Preston, the most believable '50s person in the cast. She's obviously picked up looks

and mannerisms from every actress of the period, from Marilyn Monroe to Sandra Dee. McKeon recalls Brandon de Wilde circa *Blue Denim*, perhaps not intentionally, while Nash's role model appears to have been Henry Winkler.

Nash falls into a serious relationship with Catherine Mary Stewart, who patterns her performance on the ones she gave in *The Last Starfighter* and *Night of the Comet*. She's pretty but has no range. Her parents object to Nash because they've got her paired off with wealthy "town asshole" D.W. Brown.

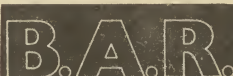
Maybe growing up really was the same for everyone, or maybe we all got our "memories" from the same movies, but *Mischief* is a bit short on originali-

ty. It's also sloppy in the way it uses general nostalgia items to suggest a specific year. Some of the records played didn't come out until 1959 or later, and some of the sweaters worn were on sale in Macy's last year.

Still, if you're not too picky, *Mischief* has a good cast—including Jani Gertz as the ugly duckling who blossoms when her braces come off—and it's smoothly put together. The close friendship of the male leads should also tug at some heartstrings.

(Alexandria, Galaxy, Serranonte)

S. Warren



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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

FITNESS EIGHTIES

James McPherson

Injured Wrestler Takes Up . . . Skateboarding?

by Paul Trefzger

One of my friends referred to this week's fitness person as an "institution." It caused me to give a thought to the meaning of that word in a Gay context. To straighten it would probably mean a philanthropist or a person holding a position of prominence for a long period of time. To us, I think it can be summed up in, "Oh him/her, he/she's been around forever." "Thumper" McPherson would probably agree. When we spoke at Welcome Home, he covered his face with both hands, laughed, and said, "People probably won't believe I'm doing this." His sport, or fitness vehicle, is skateboarding.

"Twelve year olds teach me a lot of the things I do. You wouldn't believe some of the things they can do," he said, and described double flips in the air that he admitted, "I don't think I'll ever be able to do." McPherson has been skateboarding for seven years "since I was twenty-nine. I wrestle and it was the first time I wrestled in public. I broke my shoulder and wound up in a body cast. After that I took up skateboarding."

The wrestling is still part of his life.

"I belong to two clubs, New York and San Francisco," he said. Upon further questioning I learned that these clubs are not the type that will be in the Gay Games. "It's more of a col-

legiate, free-style, grab-ass wrestling. There's a list of phone numbers. You can get together with individuals." "Erotic?" I asked. Jim nodded. "It can get sweaty. It's a good way to meet people. There's guys I correspond with. Actually, it's international . . . England, Belgium, Australia. This weekend I have a guy coming in from Chicago." He emphasized its fitness value.

"Someone wrestling seven minutes spends more energy than a pro football player during a game. It burns calories, stretches muscles, and you use every muscle in your body." He added that the wrestling in the Olympics was "awe inspiring."

I asked why after his wrestling accident he took up



James "Thumper" MacPherson and his board. (Photo: Rink)

skateboarding.

"Well, one thing, you never see a fat skateboarder," he said. "It keeps you fit because you have to get up a hill to go down it. It also helped my flat feet. It stretches your hamstrings. Basically, it's good for your body, particularly from the waist down . . . butt, calves." McPherson's favorite hill is "the one behind Seaman's Mall, down at Fulton and the digital clock tower where the Bay Bridge starts." He added, "It's great to get out on a Sunday morning at 6 a.m. when there's no one on the street. It's a high. You're in another ozone. I like to skate down Corbett too. I'll go down to Folsom to the Financial District and up to Polk." I asked about falling. "It's shit on new Levi's," he said. His current model skateboard is a Santa Cruz 5-ply, X-caliber, Truck, with Krypton wheels, 70 mm, and he's looking at new ones that are "wide thick and high. Mine's kind of an antique. Oh, and I wouldn't advise anyone starting out to go any faster than you can run or you're going to break something."

Jim used to skateboard ten to 12 hours a week, but now it's two to three, because "Harley got into my life." Two years ago he bought a big, black Harley-Davidson, which he takes on motorcycle runs. It was on one such run with the Satyrs that he picked up his nickname (reason not given). Of the runs, he said, "We ride around and terrorize beer joints."

McPherson works out at the Muscle System two to four times a week.

"The older you get the more exercise you need because life gets easier," he said. "There are times I'll leave my car and motorcycle at home. Walking is great exercise too. But at the gym I usually do upper body exercises every other day. Sometimes, I'll do other parts."

not cruising . . . Even if you get in a car and drive to a nice place and walk around, it helps your head a lot. Just half-hour walks are mentally and physically rewarding."

"Watch your weight?" I asked. "Yeah. I watch it go up. No. I eat what I like, but I eat less of it. I try to eat more chicken and fish. With spices we have here, there's so many different ways to fix things. And I try to cut down on the garbage. Like I said, I'm from 'the sugar era.' That's the hardest thing to get used to. Remember three tablespoons of sugar in iced tea? All of this though, more than a pretty body, I want a healthy body. That's the main reason why I go to the gym. But it's also given me more self-confidence. And you're never too old. Not when you're thinking about your health. I like to back-pack too."

"I'll go to the Sierras to camp out, usually alone," McPherson continued. "It's a good chance to get away and think. A nice place is Desolation Valley, above Tahoe. There're trails. You can't get lost. You meet nice people and there're miles of wilderness. Someday I'm going to move to a little farm I bought in Prescott, Arizona. For ten years I've been going to the rodeo there over the 4th of July weekend. It's the only place I like beside here. There're four gyms and the guys are hot. The rodeo really drags 'em in. Part of it's 'Firemen's Day.' They squirt each other, undo hoses, have a 'bucket brigade.' I found the place on a motorcycle run."

"Another thing I want to do. I plan on going to my twentieth high school reunion on my bike in full leather. Back then, I was such a wimp. This oughta give 'em something to look at."

As he gave me a lift on his Harley, to my car, McPherson said, "If you know anybody who wants to wrestle, let me know."



12-year-olds can teach you to do this. (Photo: Rink)



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SCOREBOARD

JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES BOWLING

Team Standings and Personal Achievements
(The League Averages are Unavailable)

SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE (Week 13 of 24 - as of 02/10/85)

1. Reno, Reno Is . . .	4	0
2. Bowling Is Not My Life	3	1
3. Vagabond	3	1
4. Gaysha Boys	3	1
5. ?Lucky 13	2	2
6. Myrna's Boys	2	2
7. Number 3	2	2
8. PWIL Phuckett!!	2	2
9. With Colour	2	2
10. Dice'd Dolls	2	2
11. Strange Interlude	1	3
12. "Alley Cats"	1	3
13. Lois Lanes	1	3
14. Things Go Better w/Coke	0	4

HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE (Week 22 of 37 as of 02/08/85)

1. Scottie's Alley-oops	12½	3½
2. Puhio's	12	4
3. Mane Islanders	10	6
4. Play With It, Ltd.	9	7
5. The Handy-Caps	8	8
6. Lady And The Tramps	8	8
7. El Rio Tartarugas	7½	8½
8. Menehuehue's	6	10
9. Twinsplit	6	10
10. Stella's Ducks	1	15

MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 15 of 29 - as of 02/04/85)		
1. Play With It, Ltd.	4	0
2. Rick's Rompers	4	0
3. Trash-Lotta's	4	0
4. Yeah!!!!	4	0
5. Play With It, Please	3	1
6. Dish	3	1
7. Castro Country Club	3	1
8. All The President's Men	3	1

9. Sutter's Mill	2	2
10. Bow - K	2	2
11. The Obelisk	1	3
12. New York Man	1	3
13. Rick's	1	3
14. Blazers	1	3
15. Short Circuits	0	4
16. Team #17	0	4
17. Damaged Goods	0	4
18. "Pick-Ups"	0	4

High Scratch Game

Lowell Hills (PWIP)	257
Adrian Stenson (PWIL)	244
Randy Peterson (PWIL)	241
Mary Garrette (PWIL)	207

High Scratch Series

John Parry (PWIP)	655
Lowell Hills (PWIP)	636
Adrian Stenson (PWIL)	629
Mary Garrette (PWIL)	495

TUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 16 of 29 - as of 02/05/85)		
1. Lady & The Tramps	7	1
2. Spurts	7	1
3. Phoenix Phantoms	7	1
4. Late Nite Rollers	5	3
5. "Not Easy"	5	3
6. 5 Easy Pieces	5	3
7. Shud-a-bin	5	3
8. Hopeless	5	3
9. Oh Merde!	4	4
10. Shanti - T + A's	4	4
11. 00000's		
12. Ethel	3½	4½
13. Splitz	2	6
14. Ringold Rollers	2	6
15. 5 Easy Pieces	2	6
16. Crisco Kids	2	6
17. Guys & Balls	1½	6½
18. Overnights	1	7

WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 19 of 32 - as of 02/06/84)		
1. Rag-Tags	11	1
2. The Pimento	10	2
3. Madam + The Boys	10	2
4. Pilsner Vultures	10	2
5. Sutter's Mill - I	9	3
6. Five Not So Easy Pieces	8	4
7. High Gear	7	5
8. Bananas Without Attitude	6	6
9. Quiet Fire	6	6
10. Church Street Station	5	7
11. Stud City	5	7
12. White Swallow	5	7
13. The Embuzzers	4	8
14. Sutter's Mill Also	3	9
15. Pinhead II	3	9
16. Salsa Supremes	2	10
17. Rockin' Rollers	2	10
18. Gutter Girls	2	10

THURSDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

Week 19 of 32 - as of 02/07/85		
1. Pendulum #3	9	3
2. Pilsner Kingpins	8½	3½
3. Vagabond	8½	3½
4. Old Rick's Gold Room	8	4
5. Pilsner 2	6½	5½
6. Twin Peaks		
7. Dougalettes	6	6
8. Pendulum #1	5	7
9. Pendulum Spare Parts	4½	7½
10. Team #3	3	9
11. 2 Lefts + a Right	0	12

Compiled by Jerry R. De Young

TG Bowl 1985 Summer Season

With just more than a month left in the hot 84/85 Winter Bowling Season, it's time to begin making plans for the '85 Summer Season, which, by the way, is the Tavern Guild Leagues' 21st Anniversary. For those of you who may be contemplating joining a Gay bowling league (mixed, of course), and also for those of you who may have neglected to jot down the pertinent information, here are some facts to assist you in formulating a balanced schedule.

MONDAY T.G. LEAGUE

On April 8, the pre-season meeting will be held on the 2nd floor at Park Bowl at 7:30 p.m. to elect officers and vote on league rules. This league consists of five-person teams, with an optional 6th rotating bowler. If the rotation option is utilized, a bowler schedule should be established within the team in order to permit each member the opportunity to bowl the minimum number of games required for awards eligibility at season's end. Cost is \$7 per bowler per night bowled (five bowler minimum fee). League bowling will commence at 8:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY T.G. LEAGUE

Starts April 10. Other information same as Monday League.

With just more than a month left in the hot 84/85 Winter Bowling Season, it's time to begin making plans for the '85 Summer Season, which, by the way, is the Tavern Guild Leagues' 21st Anniversary. For those of you who may be contemplating joining a Gay bowling league (mixed, of course), and also for those of you who may have neglected to jot down the pertinent information, here are some facts to assist you in formulating a balanced schedule.

THURSDAY T.G. LEAGUE

Starts on April 4, pre-season meeting to elect officers and vote on league rules will be held on 2nd floor, Park Bowl at 8 p.m. Four-person teams, with optional 5th rotating bowler (see Monday League for elaboration on this option). Cost is \$7 per bowler per night bowled (four bowler minimum fee). League bowling will commence at 9 p.m.

In addition to providing a vehicle to get out and enjoy fun evenings with other good natured competitors, these exciting leagues also offer to those of you who enjoy responsibility an excellent opportunity to run for an administrative position like President, Secretary, Treasurer, or Master-at-arms. One need only be nominated to be considered by the league members.

While it is possible to attend the pre-season meetings and get on a team or install a team in a league, to be certain of league status, it is advisable to phone Mal Garcia at Park Bowl (752-2366) as soon as possible to confirm individual or team space within a Tavern Guild League.

DISH

(Continued from page 20)

Wilson (Fifth of July) and Wendy Wasserstein (Isn't It Romantic?), director Claudia Weill (the movie *Girlfriends*) and James Lapine, writer-director of Sunday in the Park with George. They're supposed to discuss how to distinguish between the writer's and the director's contributions, but the question not unexpectedly goes unanswered.

Wilson, who says the director's job is "to keep the playwright from raping his own work," speaks of his long association with Marshall Mason: "We met during the Civil War . . ." Actually it was 1963, when Wilson showed Mason the script for *Balm in Gilead*. After reading it, "He told me things you're not supposed to know," Wilson recounts as if still amazed, "so I knew I'd found my director." When they work together on a new play, "I know (the characters') emotional life, and Marshall knows their physical life . . . He knows to be critical after I've finished, but not to be critical while I'm working, or I'll stop dead."

Lapine offers hope for local companies who want to do Sunday in the Park: "I've written up a bare bones production that's easy to do at minimal cost. There's no point in writing a play that will only be done once." He has mixed feelings about his dual role. During the workshop phase, he says, "I wished I wasn't directing because I would have liked to work closer with Stephen (Sondheim)."

"It means you give up a lot when you're the book writer," Lapine opines. "Sometimes your favorite dialogue becomes a song." He admits this can be for the best, especially when it becomes a Sondheim song.

Wasserstein also talks about sacrifice: "You know a play is

finished when you cut your favorite joke." She says she used to teach this to her playwrighting class at Columbia, but never really believed it until it happened to her. On the subject of what directors can do to a completed work, she recalls a production of her *Uncommon Women*: "It took place in a womb, and some reviewers said it had 'feminist aspects.'"

The panel is generally unsympathetic toward Grove Press' recent attempt to stop a Boston production that took liberties with Samuel Beckett's *Endgame*, but their mood changes when I ask whether Edward Albee was justified in closing last year's all-male *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolfe*?

"Damn right!" Wilson explodes. "That's going too far!"

"That's changing the text," Wasserstein adds.

"If he had written two homosexual couples," Wilson says of Albee, "he would have written completely differently. It might have been an interesting play, but it would have been different." He let one of his own works suffer a similar fate in a less public situation: "Some idiot called me up and said 'I want to do *The Gingham Dog* with four men in my acting class.' I said yes to get him off my back . . . I don't know what he had to do to the text because they talk about a baby."

Another highlight of the weekend is a dinner given by the Actors' Fund of America to promote *Night of 100 Stars II*. Conversation is limited because we arrive behind schedule and have to leave in time for 8 o'clock curtains. The Actors' Fund is represented by board members Lillian Gish and Colleen Dewhurst, and "the first woman president in the 103-year history" of the fund, Nedda Harrigan (Mrs. Josh) Logan, daughter of Harrigan 'n Hart subject Ned Harrigan.

I remember seeing Gish a

dozen or so years ago, when everyone treated her with a respectful, "The poor old thing won't be with us much longer" attitude. Despite a recent illness that made her participation in the evening uncertain until the last minute, she looks great, speaks well, and will probably outlive us all.

Dewhurst regales anyone who will listen with a string of showbiz anecdotes, each so wonderful I don't stop to take notes for fear of missing something. Logan chats briefly about her father, one of the founders of the Actors' Fund, and his partner, Tony Hart, whom she never knew. Harrigan 'n Hart is having trouble in previews, she says, largely because it's in a theater many times the size of the one they tried out in in Connecticut last summer.

The after-dinner speeches are given during dinner to expedite matters. Among the speakers are Alexander H. Cohen, executive producer of *Nights of 100 Stars*, and his wife, producer and writer Hildy Parks. Some of the talk is about the Feb. 17 event at Radio City Music Hall, which ABC-TV will broadcast March 10, but the emphasis is on what will be done with the million dollars expected to be raised.

The goal is to build a 50-bed extended care facility, for which ground was broken last October adjacent to the Actors' Fund Home in Englewood, New Jersey. It's pointed out that the Actors' Fund helps not only actors, but people in all phases of the entertainment industry—even critics. AIDS has begun showing up as a cause of death in *Variety's* obituary section, and there are likely to be some people with AIDS ready to move into the facility when it opens.

Yes, the Manhattan celebs are talking about the same things you and I talk about. It just sounds more special coming from them.

S. Warren



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BAY AREA REPORTER B.A.R. BAZAAR

COURTLY CHATTER



Aloha 'Dere!

REMY

Today marks the premiere of *Courtly Chatter* as an every-other-week column of what is happening in and around the court system. The main emphasis is to report what the various courts, i.e., imperial, royal, etcetera, are doing. I'll be reporting on fundraising efforts, parties, and contests for the various titles that are elected throughout the year.

Saturday, Feb. 9 was a big day for the Imperial Court of San Francisco. The reigning monarchs, Emperor Rich Carle and Empress Remy Marten, in conjunction with the Tavern Guild Foundation and the Councils of Emperors and Empresses, threw a smart bash called a coronation. This coronation was to honor Their Majesties with visits from other imperial empires from the North American continent and Pacific Islands. Also, members of San Francisco's Imperial Family, Grand Ducal Council, Mr. & Miss Gay, King & Queen of Hearts, Mr. & Miss Tavern Guild, and a host of notables and quotables were there to pay their respects upon completion of their year.

The coronation was the climax of four strenuous weeks of campaigning by four people (two each for Emperor and Empress) seeking the crowns of San Francisco. At 10:55 p.m. the newly elected monarchs were announced to the assembled guests. Ken Wright was pro-

claimed Emperor and Sissy Spaceout was proclaimed Empress of San Francisco. The Widow Norton Jose Empress I read the extemporaneous oaths of office, and Emperor XII Rich and Empress XIX Remy bestowed the laurel leaf circlet and coronet on the new monarchs. Congratulations Ken and Sissy. May your reign be one of togetherness, hard work, and happiness. Tommy Turner and Colette LeGrande, congratulations to you two for your dedication and commitment to the offices. The campaigns of all four candidates were clean and showed a lot of imagination. Your committees worked extremely hard and they deserve a rousing round of applause.

Xanadu — The Court of Kubla Khan was a colorful, elegant, and most enjoyable evening. Special thanks to Obie Howell for the sets, Carl Berry, Carol McFarland, Wally Ruth-erford, Bob Ross, Jonni Valle, members of the Imperial Court and Family, SFGFDMB/TC (the band), Dick Bumpus, Matthew Brown, Marlena, Chuck Ward, and especially Jim Bonko for all their hard work in putting the coronation ball together. Also thanks to those individuals who helped out in last-minute situations. Joanna Caron, Gary Noss, Ed McMillan, Anna-Mae Wong, Mina, Lady Gene Forrest, Monte Reddick, Tony Trevizo—thank you for everything!!!

There were 30-odd courts represented at the coronation and the presentations by the San Francisco courts and candidates were great. Santa Monica won the out-of-town presentation, and the Grand Ducal Court won the in-town prize.

Marcus will return next week.

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The Pussies of the South Pacific in Men Behind Bars. (Photo: Rink)

Watch this column for the date and time of the investiture of the new emperor and empress, Ken and Sissy. It promises to be fun and exciting.

BARBARY COASTERS MOTORCYCLE AWARDS

Saturday, Feb. 16 was a very busy day for members of the bike clubs and independents.

The Warlocks M/C, which will celebrate its Silver Jubilee as a club, hosted its annual pre-awards cocktail party. This party is also to announce the club's new officers for the coming year. The new officers are: Secretary, Jim Haltom; Treasurer, Ray Rosborough; Road Captain, Frank Rauch; Vice President, Wat Abbott; First Lady, Charlie Minehart; and President, Allen Dale. Congratulations Warlocks, and have a wonderful

"25."

Following on the heels of the Warlock's party was the Barbary Coasters Motorcycle Awards. Preceding the awards and show was the Bike and Buddy ball, which ran from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The awards and show, the B.C.'s 19th, started promptly at 8 p.m. chaired by VP Gene Forrest, and ably assisted by the members, the entire function ran without a hitch. The sold to capacity and then some audience cheered, stamped its feet, and applauded its favorite show numbers from the 1984 season that had been nominated, as well as the winners. Mr. Marcus will give you a list of all the winners in each category, but I'll list a few: Best Group Number Weekend Run, "Thriller," Warlocks/MTV; Best Individ-

ual Number Weekend Run, "Splash," Bobby Wong, Warlocks/MTV; Best Run Show BC's "Tara, Tara, Tara"; Best Open Social, SF/GDI's 10th Anniversary; Best Weekend Run, BC's; Buddy Rider of the Year, Jack Coates/Constantines; Rider of the Year, Yoshi Matsuda/Independent; and Special President's Award, Warren Cave/42nd Street Gang. Congratulations to all the nominees and winners for all of your hard work and energy that made the 1984 run season and year a great success. Also to the BCs for another successful awards and show.

SWEETHEARTS AND CUPIDS

Valentine's Day more than

(Continued on next page)



John Valle, president of SFGDIs, leads a motorcycle run production number at the Barbary Coaster's 19th annual motorcycle awards. (Photo: Rink)

CLUB S.F. IS NOW OPEN 9 AM to 1 AM DAILY.

CHATTER

(Continued from previous page)

proved love was in the air. Hunks, Polk Street's newest bar, opened to a packed house. Good luck to the owners on your grand opening. Kimo's up the street had its annual Mr/Miss Valentine contest and party. An overflowing crowd partied and danced to the new Mr. Valentine, Don and Miss Valentine Rosa . . . smouches to you both. The next night, the ever-eventful Kokpit hosted its annual Kokpit Cupid Kontest. All week long customers voted for their favorite candidates for Mr./Ms. Cupid, whenever you bought a drink . . . and the winners are . . . Mr. Cupid, Billy Hines; and Ms. Cupid, Dog Lady. I heard it was a tight race!!!

REHEARSALS, REHEARSALS, REHEARSALS

This past week was Rehearsal-mania. If it wasn't a rehearsal for the BC awards, it was for

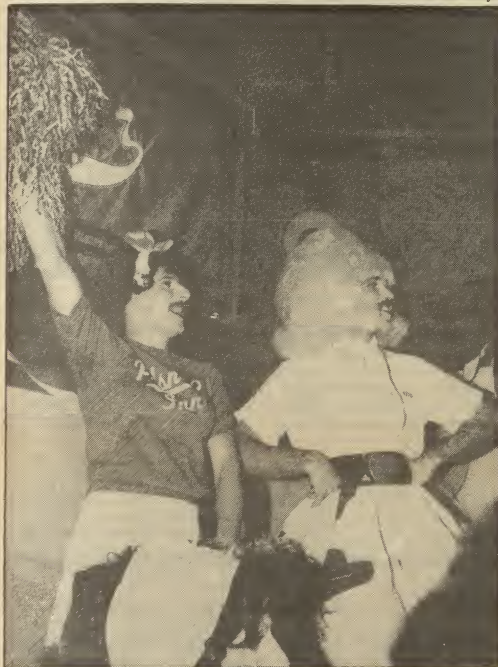
Men Behind Bars and then back again. Four shows in one weekend could wear off a girl's heels. Thank goodness, I have more than one pair! Men Behind Bars at the Victoria Theater, benefiting the Shanti Project and the Band Foundation, is one way to donate money or time for worthwhile causes. Jim Cvitanich and Mark Abramson put together one hell of a show. The way the audiences hooted and hollered, this show could go on the road and pay to sold-out houses. The 107-member cast just flowed amongst costumes, hair, and bodies like they had done it a hundred times. Fabulous, gang! Thanks Jim and Mark for the chance to be a part of it!

Thanks . . . thanks . . . thanks . . . to Bob Ross for the Valentine's Gift, Mr. Marcus for your support and commitment, the BCs for understanding "Her Most" and all of you for a wonderful year as "your" Empress . . . Okay, fine . . . till next time . . . Aloha!!! ■

Remy



Will Tucker of Fife's sang "I Never do Anything Twice" at Men Behind Bars. (Photo: Rink)



The Pilsner High cheer led by Trudy and Suzy at Pilsner Inn's Valentine sock hop. (Photo: Rink)



Contestants and guests at Kimo's Cupid contest. (Photo: Rink)

Courtly Calendar

Thursday, Feb. 21: Tommy Turner Auction for Lighthouse for the Blind, The Mint, 1942 Market St., 7-9 p.m.

Victory Party for Ken and Sissy, Stallion, Polk and Ellis, 8 p.m.

Pilsner High Senior Class Reno Trip, through Sunday, 9/24, Class Prez—Olin Sanders.

General Meeting, NALGG (Gay Gerontologists) Pride Center (Hayes at Fillmore), 5:30p.m., room A.

MC Forum Meeting, Chez Mollet (527 Bryant), 8:30 p.m.

Bare Chest Contest, Arena (9th & Harrison), Mr. March, 9 p.m., MC-Marcus.

Friday, Feb. 22: Victory Party for Ken and Sissy, The Village, 4086 18th St., 8 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 23: ALGA (Asian Lesbian Gay Alliance), Yank Sing Restaurant, 427 Battery St., no host cocktails, 5 p.m. dinner, six-ish, \$25.

Saturday, 2/23: 1st Anniversary, California Eagles MC, SF Eagle, 5 p.m., buffet, no host bar.

Sunday, Feb. 24: Cycle Runners Open Meeting, Febe's, 11th and Folsom, 3-6 p.m.

Hudson House Benefit, SF Eagle, Beer Bust & Auction, 3-6 p.m., \$6.

1st & 13th Anniversary, Cycle Runners MC, Febe's 3-6 p.m., \$6.

Monday, 2/25: Joint Birthday, Grand Duke Michael Bowman and Rick Manring, Kimo's (Polk & Pine) 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 26: Victory Party for Ken and Sissy, Kokpit, Turk and Leavenworth, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 27: Victory Party for Ken and Sissy, Febe's, 11th and Folsom, 8 p.m.

Dynasty, at your favorite pub, 9 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 28: Marin Civic Light Opera's Production of Mame, Benefit for ICF, 8 p.m., \$15/\$20 with bike transportation. Contact any bike club officer for information. ■

Compiled by Remy and Karl Stewart

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Leatherspace

Urban Aborigines
by Geoff Mains
Gay Sunshine Press; \$8.95
by Paul Reed

There is so much in this book it's hard to know where to begin. Reading it first in bits and pieces, and then straight through, I experienced a variety of responses: interest and anger; titillation and skepticism; intrigue and boredom. And then I found myself skipping around again, reading a bit here, a bit there, whatever seized my interest at the moment.

Well. When a book can do that to a reviewer, there's gotta be something there, and I think what's there encompasses all these things—a serious examination of the leatherscene as a discreet reality unto itself, not as some deviant sub-group; a heavy and oftentimes too-thick analysis of the physiology of S&M sex practices; a curiously apologetic justification of the leather community; a brilliant synthesis of anthropology, biology, physiology, ethics, and theory on human nature.

The book is ineptly subtitled "A Celebration of Leathersexuality," which it is not. There is much less of the celebratory nature here than there is of the analytical, but what is celebratory is interesting. Mains interweaves compelling vignettes and sexually graphic scenes with his thorough discussion, a popular technique of nonfiction books which is fairly effective here. A more descriptive subtitle might have been "An Analysis of Leathersexuality," or even more correctly, "An Interpretation of Leathersexuality."

For what Mains has done with remarkably synthetic thinking is interpret the leather scene—which he terms "leath-

erspace"—within an anthropological framework which seeks to define the members of leatherspace as a tribe, and then goes on to describe that tribe within a number of perspectives: biology, physiology, art, culture, even religion.

I think it's the interpretive nature of the discussion that gets sticky, for too often it seems that Mains is apologizing to someone for the leather community by explaining it all away for us. On the other hand, he could hardly avoid it—because in order to understand, we must know. And so we need knowledge.

Mains gives us knowledge by the pageful. Thank you. And I do mean thank you sincerely. The strong point of the book was the detailed explanation of the physiology of S&M sex practices. Yes, at times it seemed to go on and on, but each passage clarifies just how S&M can be fun. As a frequent practitioner-in-ignorance, it is rewarding to discover facts about pain-pleasure that make it clear why heavy titwork or cock and ball "torture" create such intense pleasure, eventually becoming ecstasy and euphoria.

It all has to do with how pain causes the brain to release opium-like hormones that block the pain and convert it into pleasure after a certain level has been reached. Or something like that. It's too involved for a book review, and anyway, if you're interested, you should go buy a copy of the book.

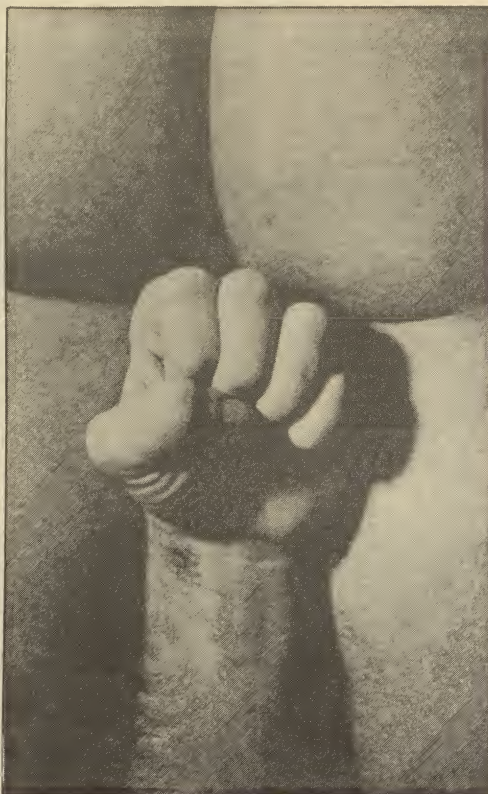
Small publishers often try the most daring and provocative projects, and San Francis-

co's own Gay Sunshine Press has ventured into new territory with *Urban Aborigines*. In this age of "how to" books and cheap romances, intelligent discussions of sexuality are rare. Even more rare is a serious, informed look at exotic behavior like sado-masochism and all the varieties of sexual behaviors which fall under the general category—things like fisting, watersports, piercing, and bondage.

Mains' book is an example of a new trend in publishing, and I think we'll see a great many more such books soon. It's the trend towards an easily accessible yet learned analysis of a subject, be it leather or opera or anthropology or whatever. The word "psychobabble" could be applied to this "genre," though the word carries a strongly negative meaning.

Rather than remaining within staid formulae of academic rigor and non-English vocabulary, Mains (and others) strike out with an approach that blends knowledge from several fields. What emerges is fresh, invigorating, and challenging. Most importantly, what emerges is the real and ultimate reason these other, separated disciplines exist—to give meaning to life through knowledge and understanding.

This is a laudable accomplishment. Without Mains, the studies in pain/pleasure which were carried out strictly within the discipline of biochemistry would have remained strictly within that discipline. This is true of the theories of anthropology



A chapter title photo in *Urban Aborigines*.

(Photo: R. Pruzan)

he uses, as well as mythology and sociology. Instead, Mains takes the discoveries of several fields and rethinks them in terms of leather-sexuality, shedding light where none has ever been shed before.

What is sorry about this, of course, is that exactly the sorts of persons who most need to learn from this analysis will

never see the book. People like Jerry Falwell and all those others who simply do not understand the human species should see these facts and this simple explanation of why things are the way they are.

So what we have, then, is a thoroughly provocative work—which enlightens us all, though some of us will never see it—which deserves attention. ■

Useful Diversion

Golden Years
by John Preston
Alyson Publications, \$4.95
by Paul Reed

John Preston has done it again with this latest installment in the Alex Kane series. This is the second book which features Gay hero/vigilante Alex Kane—a great big hunk of a man intent on searching out anti-Gay activities and avenging them.

Last fall *Sweet Dreams* inaugurated this series—the only Gay series in an "action" genre. In *Golden Years* Alex Kane is out to discover just what is going on out in Arizona. It seems someone is luring older Gay men to a desert retirement home which is purportedly designed to meet the needs of older Gays.

But when old Joe Talbot opts to retire to this "Son Valley," as it is called, things do not go as planned. The facilities are not as advertised, and the "care" is dangerous. Older Gay men are being swindled.

And Alex Kane doesn't like it. Together with a young man from New York who befriended the older Talbot prior to his retirement to Arizona, Kane takes a trip out West to find out what's up. He enlists the aid of a handsome young local—Luke McDavid—in his investigation of Son Valley.

When the three of them happen on the scene, they discover a greedy setup with ugly consequences. With the action that follows Kane's discovery, the book races to a thrilling conclu-

sion, as polished as any of the action genre.

Preston is a master at timing and pace in these short entertainment novels. *Golden Years* whizzes by and leaves the reader almost frustrated for more.

The only problem I have with *Golden Years*—and the same was true of my reading of *Sweet Dreams*—is a bit of bad conscience over my titillation at all this pro-Gay revenge. This stuff is definitely no-nonsense: an eye for an eye. In real life, of course, one would never condone such vigilantism, such extreme action outside the law. But with the Alex Kane stories, we find ourselves snickering and cheering from the sidelines, yeah, get

even!

In light of the current controversy in New York over the subway vigilante, it is important to remind ourselves that there really is a big difference between reading and fantasizing this sort of revenge and the actual execution of such in real life.

I guess that's what makes the Alex Kane series work. We may never condone these actions in the real world. We may even recognize that love, not vengeance, is always the answer. But as a fantasy—and as a good evening read—such a story can be both entertaining and instructive, perhaps even cathartic, defusing hidden angers and accumulated, unexpressed irritations over the many (too many) injustices we endure, often on a daily basis.

So we look to *Golden Years* as a welcome and useful diversion. And we look forward to the next installment, promised by Alyson Publications, very soon. ■

Books, Books

Have you ever felt sure there was a book out there that you'd enjoy tremendously—but you had no idea which one it was? Alyson Publications has a solution. Their quarterly book catalog gives brief descriptions of dozens of books, as do most such catalogs—but it also has much longer excerpts from selected titles, as well as occasional author interviews and articles about Gay book publishing.

"I've bought too many books because the two-sentence ad or back-cover copy sounded good,

then been totally disappointed with the actual book," says publisher Sasha Alyson. "All of our books will be enjoyed by somebody out there; very few of them are for everyone. This is the best way we've found to help readers select just what they want."

A one-year subscription to the Alyson Book Catalog is available free by sending your name to Alyson Catalog, 40 Plympton St., Boston, MA 02118. Indicate whether you're interested in Gay male or Lesbian books, or both. ■

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Culture Vultures Unite

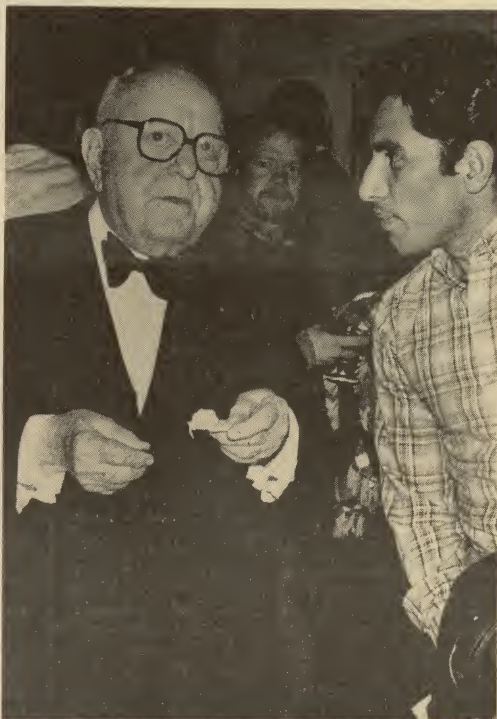
by Reggie Jones

Rather than sit around and wonder what to do until they come up with a cure, I've taken to culture-vulturing. You should try it. Seems there are thousands of people out there who are madly going about the business of establishing names for themselves in the worlds of art and letters. Anyone can play—the rankest kind of ignorance, I've found, is welcomed. Culture-vultures live to inform.

Here's how you do it. You pick a time and place—in this case, Thursday night at the Century Club. Then you bait the place with a known celebrity of an intellectual nature—and who better than octogenarian avant composer Virgil Thomson. Position this baited place within a framework of noteworthiness—A Bay Area Salute to an American Composer—and you have created the Cultural Event. Then, just stand back and culture-vultures for miles around will flock to the baited trap and soak up the culture.

Here to accept the Bay Area recognition for his 65 years of musical innovation, Thomson has worked with names such as Gertrude Stein, Picasso, Ernest Hemingway, the Oppens, and virtually every noteworthy artist in post-World War I Europe.

After a stammering, circuitous introduction given by Robert Commanday, Thomson set the tone of the evening by standing up, bowing, and sitting down. Thus we were able to get right into the music, and witty, succinct music was what it turned out to be. During his long creative life, Thomson has turned his hand to virtually every type of composition and made each, indelibly, his own. Rapid-fire, jazz-like sonatas, operatic poems, haunting gospel and spirituals, a wistful, sinister mass made up a series of aural impressions indifferent to all but the most skeletally recognizable forms. Very often I found I would have physically lifted myself from my seat, I'd be so caught up in the intricacies of some piece, it would have become so engrossing. I was so



Virgil Thomson hob-nobbing among San Franciscans. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

transported during the five portraits for four clarinets, and I greatly enjoyed the poem for mezzo soprano and baritone "Buffalo Days."

'I would say a lot of the same energy we heard in the music is evident in the man.'

After the recital there was a reception, but I'm afraid culture-vultures don't mingle as well as they hob-nob. At 89, Virgil Thomson turned out to be the most energetic, amiable person in a room of 60 people, but

perhaps that was to be expected. Leering, poking fun, contradicting, mugging for the cameras, I would say a lot of the same energy we heard in the music is evident in the man, his 5 foot figure sailing head and shoulders above the crowd. Frustrated in his efforts to find young Jacqueline Helin, a pianist of the evening, Thomson turned to me and said "Well, I guess I'll take this opportunity to go and pee." To which I responded "I suppose you have to take every chance you can get," which he thought very funny.

One last note: there was a laughably inadequate buffet served with a mediocre, flat champagne which I was instructed not to touch and which Thomson wisely disdained. Culture-vultures don't dine (see Hunger-Marching). ■

restrained civility.

The prose included in *Hot Acts* is meant to appeal to every fetish, scene, and size queen. The titles are wonderful in triggering salivary and pre-cum fluids: "Encounters with Fore-skin at Junior High," "Bondage Techniques I Use," "He Put His Hand Between My Legs," "Youth is Voyeur at Uncle's Jacking Off," "Coming Out in the Scouts," "Pastor, Feed They Sheep," "The Trooper Patted My Thigh," "Rob, My Brother-in-Law, the Cop." Wow! The *National Enquirer* can't compete with these take-your-breath-away headlines.

Hot Acts acts on equal opportunity guidelines. The reader will find Black gods and Hispanic hunks. Our boys who keep this country safe for democracy—especially sailors and Marines—are not ignored either. Older men too have a distinctive appeal for many of us confirmed daddy lovers, and *Hot Acts* offers the compelling "Daddy's Dick."

Give the gift of self-love. Indulge. Buy this volume for yourself as a self-help guide for coping with rainy winter nights. ■

Hot Acts (Volume I) is a stunning collection of masturbatory prose gleaned from a New Jersey (New Jersey?) publication entitled *First Hand*. Here are 63 (count 'em—63!) pieces of jack-off prose for those of us who prefer the safe sex being offered by Gay Sunshine Press. In addition, there is an odd assembly of sexy drawings, photographs, and bawdy cartoons. Take your pick of drawings: a cock-pierced leatherman in chains, harness, and biker cap; foot worship; a super-endowed sailor holding an oozing cock by a urinal; a jock-clad young stud being man-handled, front and back, in a restroom by a pair of Tom of Finland-like bruisers (a trucker behind and a Navy man on his uniformed knees). The photos range from oh-my-god hot (see page 46) to pot bellyish but hung (page 115) to artsy (page 126). The cartoons are a Gay man's answer to *The New Yorker's*

BOOK RACK

Rainy Evenings

Hot Acts: Homosexual Encounters from First Hand

Edited by Winston Leyland and Brandon Judell
Gay Sunshine Press, \$10.95

by Joseph D. Butkie

Strings of pearls coil about the muscular thighs of a hunky Black stud. A ruler-long shaft of aroused meat snakes past the misplaced necklace, beckoning readiness for action. The model lies abed, waiting for Mr. Goodhead to take the plunge, the challenge. On the opposite page is a vignette entitled "Long, Thick, Black and Beautiful." The narrative, a mere page and a half, is a hearty snack for any worshipper of cock. This first person account reveals how a horny white guy invites a tall Black Adonis (who works as a door-to-door magazine salesman) into his living room one afternoon. Uninterested in the safer spiel, the crazed host offers an alternate plan of action for the dedicated six-foot-three wage-earner. Magazines leave laps, jockey shorts fall, and lips do more than lick themselves wet in anticipation.

Good Buys

DICK WALTERS

Today, Thursday the 21st, is the Annual Lithuanian party at the Gangway on Larkin Street. There will be all-day festivities, so come on down and join in the fun. Daddy Joe Roland and the staff of the Gangway makes this one of the best events of the year, and they make everyone feel welcome.

This Friday the 22nd, will be Albert Carpenter's annual 39th (?) Birthday party at Google's from 5 p.m. till . . . with Piano entertainment and canapes . . . this promises to be a fun-filled evening that one and all can enjoy, right Bobby Mena?

On Saturday the 23rd the Hob Nob will be having its 2nd Bake Off, with prizes for the best entries. All baked goods will be auctioned off for AIDS with Bill Ward playing the piano. They will be celebrating 19,994 days of "Life with the Mayor of Geary Street" . . . Bob Dunn . . . how many years does that come out to, Bob?

Mike Dooley of the White Swallow has just returned from a Mexican cruise that one of his favorite customers took him on . . . it must be nice, and I am sure you had a nice time while your co-workers slaved away at the White Swallow . . . hi, Jim Anderson.

Every Wednesday evening the Giraffe on Polk Street shows *Dynasty* on its great big screen and also serve canapes . . . the bar opens at 11:30 a.m. so you can get a good seat to watch your favorite soap opera . . . great sounds.

Happy belated birthday greeting to Johnny (Virginia) Kehr as of Tuesday last.

Isn't \$10 for a carton of milk a little expensive, David of Hunks on Polk Street? And why

do they say Durwood of the Special on Castro goes down for beans? We know, don't we Jack South.

Hal Call is moving his long-popular Circle J video review club to Ellis Street with the magical number 369 Ellis St. They should be in that location by the 1st of March. Hal promises to have a flea market sale of surplus stuff at the 348 Jones St. location starting on the 1st of March. There should be some goodies in the Gay erotic stuff that Hal has collected during 31 years in this business, so remember the dates and get into getting some good buys. Good luck on the new location Hal.

Don't forget the benefit brunch at Bradley's Corner Saturday the 23rd from 10 a.m. till 3 p.m. for only \$7. All proceeds go to the AIDS home care and hospice programs. Thank you Bill Giddings and the staff of Bradley's Corner . . . a nice thought.

Like to welcome home Paul and Joe of the Gate after their week in Mexico . . .

Sunday afternoon from 4 till 8 Google's has the talented Bob Sanders on the keyboard playing your favorite tunes.

Tommy Turner is having an auction tonight—Thursday—for the Lighthouse for the Blind, a worthy cause, so do drop out to the Mint . . . hi Kevin. ■



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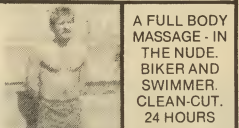
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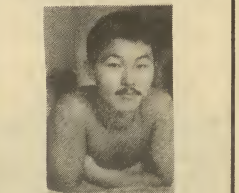
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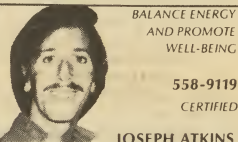
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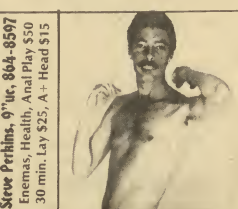


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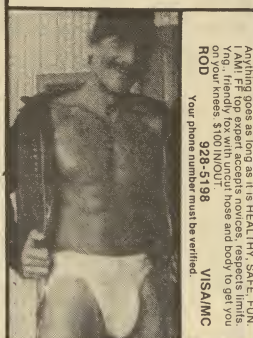
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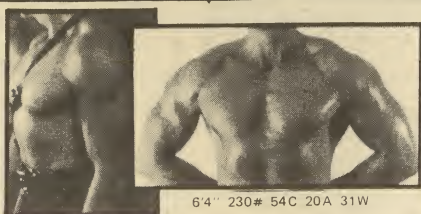
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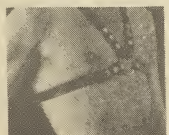
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